FBIS DAILY REPORT

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AS-SADAT GRANTS INTERVIEW TO CAIRO TELEVISION

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[Text of interview granted to Mrs Himmat Mustafa by President as-Sadat in his native village of Mit Abu al-Kawm--recorded]

[Text] [Mrs Mustafa] A new year begins in the life of the leader and he leads the way for his great people, who built the greatest civilization in the world at the dawn of history. These people now are building their new civilization with faith, love and peace, raising aloft their banners and surrounding their leader with whom they exchange trust and giving--the leader who devoted his whole life in search for the Egyptian identity. He wanted to explore its genius with the conviction of a leader who entered the arenas of national struggle through stands that have become a symbol of the pride of the nation and a live expression of its aspirations.

Today, with the beginning of a new year of life full of struggle and victory, we stand with the leader for the sake of Egypt. Egypt has filled his life and conscience so that his struggle as a youth, a man and a president were all for the Egyptian family.

From his village of Mit Abu al-Kawm we interview President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat on his birthday.

Congratulations.

[As-Sadat] Thanks you very much.

[Question] We regard the greatest of your birthdays as those you celebrate with heart-to-heart talks with the Egyptian people. Your excellency has just returned from a tour of the republic's governorates. That was the greatest direct contact between the leader and his people. What is your comment on this recent meeting with the people?

[Answer] In fact you might say that birthday celebration is a little bit exaggerated because we, the peasants, are not used to celebrating our birthdays, and we even do not know them. Even in the city I never celebrated my birthday, because that is a form of extravagance for us peasants. There are two important things that give significance to my birthday [words indistinct] perhaps this applies to your question. The first thing is that I have just returned from a meeting with my people and kinfold in Ad Daqhaliyah and Dumyat. Before that I was in Minya. In fact I do not think that there can be a feeling or sentiment greater than the sentiment I felt. This sentiment I described in Al-Mansurah and Dumyat as a feast of love. Perhaps many do not not know that the road of love is the road that I feel and the road of any achievement I make. Therefore, the celebration of love in Al-Masurah and Dumyat before I arrived in Mit Abu al-Kawm was the greatest occasion I witnessed before I saw my birthday.

The second thing is that yesterday I arrived filled with love to the point of satiation. I have already said that without love this country will be misguided. It was so in fact. Yesterday I visited the leader of the opposition, Ibrahim Shukri, in Shirbin. I was the leader of the opposition. What does this mean? I should have said that we are a great family named the Egyptian family. It includes all the people of Egypt. It has its values, its situation, its respect, and due responsibilities that we place upon this family. This Egyptian family is first an Egyptian family but takes the form .... As I have said, when we make democracy we must take some form. These forms are the parties or the various social groups in which the people who have similar views form a society or a party so that through this party all express their will, and take part in making decisions.

In our history it never happened that the president of the state or the prime minister visited the opposition. We understood democracy in a wrong way, and I will talk about this later. Yesterday I returned satiated with what I called the celebrations of love that I saw and that moved me and filled my life. I was surprised when I returned to find that--I hope that my kinfold and people in Al-Mansurah, Dumyat and Minya and the Egyptian woman who taught me how to love her and to devote myself to her will not be angered when I say I lived the greatest moments of love. I entered a project called the renovation of Mit Abu al-Kawm. This project had a very long history in my life. I have talked and written about this project. At one time when I was in the foreigners' prison after they took me out from--I think I told you this before--after the royal decree has been issued relieving me from my service. [as heard] Then when I was in the shooting club and there was a boy [word indistinct] the officer who handed over to me the royal decree. I knew him immediately. He is now living and in good health. It is very interesting that he was coming to Captain Anwar as-Sadat to strip him of his rank and to tell him that the royal decree to relieve him had been issued.

When we dealt with this subject I said that on (?29) Ramadan, the night of power, I was informed of the dismissal at the officers' club, precisely 1 hour before sunset. I was relieved of my rank. Muhammad Ibrahim Imam, (?director) of the political police, who earlier conveyed to me the royal decree, asked me to go with him to the governor's office for some formalities. I asked him to tell me frankly about our destination, because there was 1 hour left for the fast-breaking and I was fasting [word indistinct]. He then leaned toward me and asked me if my colleague would be with me. My colleague, a pilot, was arrested on the very same day.

The last thing I did before I left the army--I returned to the army in 1950--I sent the messenger soldier who was in the officers mess to bring me food from the army to the foreigners' prison. I got the food on time. As I told you--and I believe that my sons and daughters, who are watching this program and are following up the chain of events--I was told of the royal decree when I was fasting, I was dismissed from the armed forces when I was 22-years old. It was difficult for a 22-year old youth to start his life again and to think of a new starting point. I did not give attention to all this. I reached the foreigners' prison and there I had my fast-breaking. I spread out the blanket in order to sit on it. I like to sit on the ground, because perhaps this is healthier and more comfortable. I sat on the ground and I leaned my back on the bed at the foreigners' prison. When the fun was over, I started to assess the situation. I was dismissed that day and my life, future and what they term a career were destroyed, and I was only 22-years old. This is not what irritated me. What irritated me was my situation: I am in prison now. Will I be tried or not? Will I remain detained or not? How can I manage to live when I am responsible for a family? I need resources to guarantee my food. As I told you, the fun was over. I started to struggle against the battle of doubts and seriousness inside me and the battle of fear of the future and present and [words indistinct]. One thing had restored me to certainty, calmness and tranquillity. This was my feeling in [words indistinct]. What it meant to me was that regardless of the circumstances and regardless of what would take place, I could just go back to Mit Abu al-Kawm and start a new life at any time. I did not care about what my situation would be. What was important was that I should not be in prison. This is the significance of the land about which I am talking--the value of the land and value of affiliation. I have a lot to tell the new generations, who represent the vanguards. I want them to love their land, which is the most sacred thing--the land given to us by God.

This has been going on since the day of creation and will continue until the end of the world. I want them to love their land, its beauty and simplicity. I do recall that when I had this notion in prison, the dreadful battle inside me calmed down, and certainty and tranquillity prevailed. I felt very strong. [words indistinct] I always adopt my decisions when I feel strong. [Words indistinct] what actually makes me strong is love, sincerity, beauty and values that are too difficult to be understood by anyone. They think they are poetry and imagination. This is what makes me [word indistinct].

I was surprised when they told me to come. They told me they were in the process of rebuilding Mit Abu al-Kawm, which, as I have said, is of great significance to me. It is the harbor to which I can go and be sure of finding security tranquillity and beauty, no matter what the storms. All my life I dreamed of possessing something in it. On (?26) Ramadan and while I was waging a battle with myself, doubting myself, reviewing my life after I had been dismissed, I told myself that I would go back to Mit Abu al-Kawm. Do you know how I imagined my return? I imagined my return to take place in the same manner in which I have grown up here, in the same manner as Mit Abu al-Kawm. I imagined a house built with bricks, which I could make more beautiful. Even bricks can be made more beautiful. It is not necessary that this house be a villa built with marble, alabaster and granite. All the people here are living in brick houses. My ultimate desire was to possess a small house built with bricks. Everyone here has his own house. It is one of the traits of independence to which we became accustomed here. I imagined a small house built with bricks, but instead of being a house with one story, I would build it with two stories. We always call the first story the basement, of which I have spoken previously and in which I was born. In this basement there is only one outlet to draw smoke out, there are no windows or anything of the kind. We call the second floor the seat. We look at the person who builds a second floor and exclaim, "Oh, that person has a seat." Therefore, during the period after I was dismissed, when I lost my knowledge of what to do, and during the period I spent in jail, I decided that I would begin my life again here even if I were to build only one basement. By doing this, I would be independent, and upon building the seat I would be realizing my hopes. I decided to begin my new life here. I felt that I was stronger than before. My life developed to what it is at present. The revolution took place, and I became a member of the revolution command council. I used to come here often. However, one thing remained alive in me. It was this land, its beauty and the strength it provided. Following the death of my mother in 1958 and my (?heart attack) in 1960, the doctors told me that I must have a place outside Cairo, in the country, where I could work. The death of my mother was an occasion because it brought this attraction to the surface. I came here and bought the place we are sitting in now. On it I built a small house, not in the present state you see now. I introduced changes in the house more than ten times, because when I built the house in 1960 I possessed no money. I obtained a loan from the government against 20 pounds of my salary every month. In 1960 they had a deal called life-time loans. They told me that I would get a large sum of money from this loan because I would pay 20 pounds of my salary all my life. They told me that instead I could receive a 20-year loan only and not for life. I accepted. I came here and began work on the house. I hired an engineer, who laid down the foundations while I was my own contractor because I could not entrust it to someone else--I had only a limited amount of money. I built the house here. Look at the beauty God provides, and at what a life struggle can produce. A house built with bricks, red bricks with a large hall on the first floor instead of the basement. They told me there is something called [word indistinct], which provides the house with a more beautiful aspect. I installed the [word indistinct] windows. They did not cost much. I lived in a house instead of being of bricks and a basement. [as heard] I will be fulfilling my desire when I build a seat upstairs.

It is natural that houses built with bricks have no bathrooms. [as heard] The person who gets the best of brick construction builds a bathroom with a cement floor and a large basin where water can be collected then be disposed of. Here we have a house where water can be and so forth.

I want to affirm that I used to come here, happy, to meet with people, glad that one of my dreams had been realized. The best thing a person can achieve is to fulfill a dream. Everytime I come here it is a joyful thing to me.

Well, what I did was to bring the hose and make water taps inside. [words indistinct] so the alluvium can sink to the bottom and then we shall be able to drink the good water on the surface. Thus, we'll now have a water tank on the roof and water taps, pumps and a very good flow of water. As I say, this was my esteemed ideal. It has even become a very special ideal to me. However, there was always a thought that corrupted all this beauty. I have done all this for Egypt but I still wonder what I have done for the sake of Mit Abu al-Kawm. Well, some might think that I am exaggerating, yet I tell you that this has been my way of life. I never feel that I am absolutely happy unless all those around me are also happy. I will feel completely desperate if one person around me looks tired or unhappy. This is the truth. It is only a feeling because I have to come here to Mit Abu al-Kawm, of course, and restore my memories of the past. However, some people say that As-Sadat is trying to change Mit Abu al-Kawm into a relaxation palace, as if he's imitating the feudalism of past times. No, this is not true. I came here to Mit Abu al-Kawm full of a kind of shame. The people of Mit Abu al-Kawm are my own family and relatives.

After the revolution I had in mind, out of my position in the revolution, that I would be able to build and develop Mit Abu al-Kawm and do anything I wanted for the sake of this village. The thing that I had in mind was a desire to serve Mit Abu al-Kawm with my own personal achievements. I mean that any expenses should be paid out of my own pocket, keeping in mind that there is no possibility for me to own anything other than a place in Mit Abu al-Kawm. Mit Abu al-Kawm for me is worth the whole world and all its fortunes. Well, I was always thinking from where and how I could cover the expenses of building this village. Therefore, I did not start building in Mit Abu al-Kawm. However--I say all this for our sons--I will say and write this to the future generations and to the vanguards of our future generations. Moreover, I have prepared a message addressed to my son Jamal, not because he is my son but because he is one of the future generation. I earlier addressed other messages to Jamal, beginning in 1956, because he was born in that year and in the midst of the 1956 battle. I have promised my son those writings, yet those messages would not be his own. They would be for all the vanguards of his generation. Well, I want to tell my sons that regardless of all time limits, honesty, faithfulness and internal strength as well as faith in God and in all honorable values would eventually enable any person to achieve all his desires. I told you before that all I want is a house made of bricks--this house that I have built of red bricks. As I said, I have built a concrete bathroom like the one that people usually build in Egypt. Well, I also tell my sons that by faith, by internal strength, by respect for all values of love, honesty and our commitment to duties in this universe, we can reach our goals. We are part of this universe. Man should realize that he is not the center of all creation. Man is only a tiny part of this globe, which is in its turn a small part of several other universes around our globe. The wonderful moments and the happy times I had yesterday following that carnival of love was that it took place in Mit Abu al-Kawm.

I do not feel shy entering the red brick house that has a sink and a tub, a water tap and so on, because I will make sure that every citizen in Mit Abu al-Kawm will also have in his house a sink, a tub and a water tap. Yesterday I reached the peak of happiness--you might not believe it Himmat--yesterday when I returned from Dumyat--and here I do not exaggerate--I said that man could never achieve such love of the people s I received all the way from Dumyat to here. Therefore, I feel now that I am quite prepared to end my responsibility, and I shall have enough of the people's love and affection to live with the rest of my life. This great love is too much even for me. People here in Mit Abu al-Kawm asked me to come and watch the start of work at the building site. This was my dream for Mit Abu al-Kawm. This was my dream for every citizen in Mit Abu al-Kawm. As I told you--beginning this year I will be coming to Mit Abu al-Kawm full of great happiness that will stay inside me until I die. This happiness will be that I shall never feel shy that I have built something for my own self, because at the same time I made sure that all my people here would own the same thing. When I relax and enjoy my time here, I will make certain that every citizen here is also relaxing and enjoying his time. Mit Abu al-Kawm will be rebuilt. It will become a very beautiful city--with new streets. Oh, I was really happy yesterday. Hence, when you ask me about my birthday, I assure you that this is the greatest birthday party that ever could be. Tomorrow I will lay the foundation on the site. Well, to be more accurate it will not be the foundation, because the building sites are already there and the first two quarters are there in the city. One of the two quarters is very dear to me. It is called Darb al-Jami', where I was born. The other quarter Darb al-Hawwar. In these two quarters I lived. My life and the lives of those people who are still living there were spent in very poor conditions--very poor--those people who lived a very poor life under the hot sun--some of them have actually never enjoyed the sunlight because of the type of very low and unhealthy buildings they have. Therefore, I told them that the first thing to do in Mit Abu al-Kawm was to rebuild Darb al-Hawwar and Darb al-Jami', those two quarters in Mit Abu al-Kawm. Those people should go up to the surface. They should enjoy the sunlight and smell the clean air. By this I can say that I have achieved the best that I can ever reach in my life. Then I'll be able to retire and spend the rest of my life in worship and prayers. This is my happiness, and that makes me full of beauty and happiness and love. This is what makes life so beautiful.

They say that I will be celebrating my 60th birthday this year. It is true that one born in 1918 should be 60 years old in 1978. But [words indistinct] because it comes on 25 December. If I told them I have completed my 59th year and entered my 60th, they would say he is lying about his age as the sons of the cities do. In any case, and whether they calculate it as my 59th or 60th year, I want to say that this occasion, particularly in this year and in this place, is the most fertile and glorious of the moments I have lived. This is so because I have realized a farfetched dream. I never imagined I could write a book that could yield $1 million to be spent on building Mit Abu al-Kawm. I am ready to offer $10 million to Mit Abu al-Kawm if it is available. But I never imagined writing a book that would produce even 200, 300, or 1,000 pounds. This would have fulfilled my expectations. However, the book yielded $1 million, which they have allotted to Mit Abu al-Kawm. This is what I have always wanted to do. I wanted to build houses for every one the same as I did for myself--that is, a house of red bricks equipped with a tap, bathtub and sewerage, but if I cannot do this then I will build for every one of them a house of bricks, which will be healthy and sunny.

But the houses to be built will be better than the one I built for myself. They will be built with white stones as the pyramids were built 5,000 years ago. These houses will contain all sanitary equipment and will be sunny. I say that perhaps such things are not sensed by the sons of the cities or perhaps by the young generation in the world we are living in, because of the materialistic trend we are witnessing, the struggle for survival in the cities and the world to obtain money and consumer goods--also because values have been wasted and materialism is prevailing; that is, the human being is worth the money in his possession. If someone has 1 pound then he is worth 1 pound; if he has 1,000 pounds then he is worth 1,000. Perhaps all this will erase all the beautiful values of which I am speaking. However, thank God that I am not of that kind. I wish I could have more money. I received $70,000 from the Noble Peace Prize, which I added to the $1 million that I sent to my kinfolk here.

I can say that this is the most delightful and splendid day in my entire life because [words indistinct]. There are matters that could please the man, especially the one who upholds values. Money can never please the man. I paid $1 million here. Those listening to me might say that I am stupid to pay $1 million. Why has he not paid a half million to his sons? No, my pleasure is beyond description. The great Mit Abu al-Kawm and not the small one--the great Mit Abu al-Kawm is Egypt. They are now suffering from many pains, such as difficulties with services, in food security, in housing and in many domains. However, I can say that with the beginning of 1979 we will be waging Egypt's most honorable and splendid battle. Now? I will write to my brothers and I am writing to the vanguards now.

Nations can start an honorable life when they declare their independence and also when they freely and willingly build and lay their bases in all directions. This must be applied to the individual. It is not only the nation that can start its honorable life when it becomes independent. The individual can also start his honorable life when he declares his independence from many things obstructing him in his society. These matters are inherited. The individual must overcome these matters so that he can pave the way for his life and for the great mission. Every man in this life has a mission to perform. He who discovers this mission is a clever one. This can be achieved by being faithful to Almighty God and the people. I know the Koran (?by heart), it is true I believe in the Koran, and this constitutes my entire entity and principal base, but what does it mean to give without limit to the needy ones? In other words, if a person has 1,000 pounds [words indistinct]. Let me go back to the greater Mit Abu al-Kawm--Egypt. We will begin the building of peace, the building of democracy and the building of prosperity at one time this year. I do not know if [words indistinct]. First, the building of peace: perhaps the people are asking about the disagreement. Before I begin I must say that we are now experiencing the most tremendous moments of our life despite our difficulties. These difficulties are temporary and not permanent. They are not a cancerous disease resulting from our failure to have sound planning and to predict that our population will reach the present number. Foodstuff security is being achieved because our land is giving us wheat. It is true that our land is not giving us the wheat we need, but our land is giving us everything other than wheat. We have the land. What we are suffering from is a disease and not a fatal illness. That is why I am saying these are tremendous moments, because we will free ourselves from this disease as I did from cell No 7 of the foreigners' prison. [words indistinct] This took 30 or 40 years of struggle and the test was difficult. The person gets what he deserves in the test. I believe that I have taken more than I deserved. Praise be to God, but I am working for Egypt.

[Question] Your Excellency, several things are occupying your mind at present. May I ask what is preoccupying you most at this particular moment with the beginning of a new year in your life?

[Answer] Take it from me, all of you, that we will be entering a new year which will be the most wonderful Egypt will ever experience. Why? Because if prosperity comes easily, it tastes flat. There is nothing in life that comes easily and does not taste flat. What comes after hardship, after fatigue does not taste flat. Take this house in which we are sitting. I bought this plot of land in 1960. I used every cent I had to improve this place. This place was not like it is now 18 years ago. When I came here 18 years ago, this land was cultivated with wheat. Look what happened to this land now--after 18 years. This has a good taste for me.

I say today that we are in the midst of our most wonderful battles. Why? Because from the heart of stone we will extract love, we will extract building, we will extract prosperity with our hands. This requires hard work.

Regarding the greater Mit Abu al-Kawm--Egypt--there are three things preoccupying me. They are the building of peace, the building of democracy and the building of prosperity.

[Question] Can we discuss them one by one?

[Answer] So be it. Regarding the building of peace, what is the disagreement between us or what is the truth about the present situation? The truth of the situation is that I embarked on my initiative in November 1977, about 13 months ago. I do not want to discuss it now. We have a proverb which says the hangover has gone and the time for accounting has come. Begin woke up from his hangover after the initiative He became involved in the horrible struggle with himself. Why? The man first and foremost believes that Israel must become a greater Israel stretching from the Nile to the Euphrates. Why? Because he heads the list of fanatic Zionists. He remained for 30 years as leader of the opposition--since the establishment of Israel--because he called for greater Israel. After my visit, the hangover was cured and the time for accounting came. He began a horrible struggle with himself. This struggle lasted 10 months until he came to Camp David.

We must consider Camp David as a turning point in the issue of peace. Why? We all remember that before Camp David there were several writers who liked and who still like to analyze so that the people will say that they are great political analysts and writers and I do not know what. Regrettably, in our Arab area all the writers with a few exceptions are superficial and are not interested in substance.

When I read an analysis by a foreign analyst or journalist or writer, I find substance. The Arab writers are superficial and write trivialities.

What did the Arab writers say? As you remember, Himmat, they said we reverted to the state of "no war, no peace" after the October War. We never returned to the state of "no war, no peace" after the October War. Let us review what we did until the initiative. The October War was in October 1973. The first disengagement agreement was signed in January 1974.

The second disengagement agreement was signed in September 1975. Between the first disengagement in January 1974 and the second disengagement in September 1975, Egypt was not standing idly by. During that period, there was a concerted diplomatic drive in which I, Kissinger and Ford participated. The diplomatic drive continued in 1976 and we waited for the results of the U.S. presidential elections. In 1977, I visited Carter 1 month after he had taken office. He took office in January. He was elected in November but according to the constitution he was sworn in on 20 January. He took office in January; I visited him in February.

Therefore, from the October War until my initiative in November 1977, we did not revert to the state of "no war, no peace". Of course, Begin would have liked it if we reverted to the state of "no war, no peace" because this would be the most suitable and pleasant situation for him so that he would achieve his aims. The resolutions of the recent Baghdad conference have done the greatest service to Begin's aims.

What do the resolutions of the recent Baghdad conference say? They say we must liberate the land by force and we must prepare ourselves for 10 years. They allocated the necessary funds for that. We will not sit down with Israel. We will not negotiate with Israel--no, no, no, no, no. This is what Begin wants.

Because of these slogans, he first took half of Palestine, then all Palestine, then all Palestine plus the Golan Heights plus Sinai. The great feat they did in Baghdad is that they want him to complete his job so that he will stretch Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates.

I am sorry. I should not have departed from the topic I was speaking about. I go back to the topic now. The state of "no war, no peace" has ended for good since the October War. Why? Because the October War was a turning point. The October War in effect ended the state of "no war, no peace" the state of "no war, no peace" existed before the October war. After the October War, no, no, no. The situation changed.

Begin wanted the Arabs, including Egypt, to continue their policy. He is building his settlements, strengthening his position and doing everything. As I said, he took all Palestine, plus the Golan Heights and Sinai. He still has dreams which he wants to fulfill and the generations that will come after him will fulfill this. No, the October War stopped all this and we began to talk peace.

Why did we begin to talk peace? Because Egypt and the Arabs did not become a corpse as Israel and the whole world had calculated. We ended the state of "no war, no peace."

My campaign reached its peak with the initiative I undertook in November 1977. What was the aim of the initiative?

[Question] We want to reply to a question which they are currently asking. What are the justifications for a peaceful solution following the 30 years of conflict and cries of war?

[Answer] Very well, look, I found the following. I launched the October War. I brought about the Syrian first disengagement. I brought about the second disengagement in 1975. We waited for the results of the U.S. presidential elections in 1976 because U.S. President Ford, who, with me, brought about the second disengagement, was running for president. We said we would wait and see. Carter was elected. I visited him in Camp David in February 1977, 1 month after he took office.

We sat down in order to complete the process of solving the problem. Up to that time, February 1977, I had not conceived of the idea of embarking on my initiative and visiting Jerusalem in November 1977. This was out of the question.

In February 1977, I sat down with Carter and discussed three points: The first point was the question of the territories occupied in 1967. The second point was the nature of peace. The third point was the Palestinian issue. A fourth point, which I added, was the issue of south Lebanon and Israel's behavior in that area.

This was in February 1977. It was the first time I had seen Carter. He had been sworn in just 1 month or so earlier. I found that Ford and Kissinger had handed over everything to him. We talked. We discussed the first point--the territories occupied in 1967. I told him: It is imperative that the territories occupied in 1967 should be returned. This issue is not negotiable. The territories occupied in 1967 should be returned.

We came to the second point--the nature of peace. The discussion of this point took a long time. For example, it took 2 hours of a 3-hour meeting or if the meeting was for 2 hours, it took 90 minutes. Why? Because Israel was doing what it has always done. It was making excuses. It wanted "secure borders." They put everything they wanted under the heading of "secure borders."

Mr Begin is saying the same thing now. He is saying Israel's security is being endangered. He is accusing the U.S. President of being against Israel. He must find an excuse for something. He says that Israel's security is being endangered.

[Question] Was this subject discussed in detail at Camp David?

[Answer] I am telling you the whole story from the beginning. In February 1977, we only discussed these three points and I added a fourth point. As I told you, the first point was that the question of the territories occupied in 1967 was not negotiable. We did not take a long time discussing this subject. The nature of peace took up a lot of time during our discussions. Why? As usual, the Israelis used the terms "secure borders" or "Israel's security" to describe the territory and everything they wanted.

What do the Israelis say about the nature of peace? They say we want normal relations with the Arabs. In other words there will be no peace without these relations. What are these relations? First, treaties that will end the state of war; then diplomatic, economic and cultural exchanges; then there are open borders, but not open in the real sense. No, it means that the citizens of one country can visit the other country, according to the laws of each country.

They know that no Arab can accept such a thing. That is why they demand it. They sleep happily knowing that all the Arabs will say no, no, no, no. With no, no, no, they took Palestine, plus the Golan Heights plus Sinai and with the coming no's they will expand from the Nile to the Euphrates.

When I discussed this topic with Carter, I found him greatly interested in it; we then moved on to discuss the Palestinian issue. Just as he agreed with me on point one, I found Carter agreeing with me that without a solution of the Palestinian issue there can be no peace. Really, he agreed with me on this. Our views on Lebanon agreed.

Therefore, he agreed on three points. We agreed on point one--the question of the territories occupied in 1967; we agreed on point three, on the solution of the Palestinian issue being the basis of a peaceful solution and on point four about Lebanon. We agreed 100 percent on points one, three and four and disagreed on point two, which is about the nature of peace.

I know that Israel has brought up this thing to disguise its intentions. They know that the Arabs are nervous and emotional. They bring up things which we are afraid to do.

They know that the auctioneers in the Arab world are thriving on slogans such as "Israel should be thrown into the sea" and "we must not sit down or talk with Israel." They bring up things which no one can do and say this is it.

I explained to Carter. I told him: Listen, I want peace in the true sense of the word and not metaphorically. But what you are asking when you ask me to normalize relations and exchange diplomatic relations with them [is impossible].

At that time, I was speaking just like any Arab living in the area. Perhaps after the October War my mind became more open in the sense that I no longer had a defeatist complex. I must underline the following fact a hundred times because perhaps some of the Arab brothers cannot understand the feelings of the Egyptian people. They see that all the Egyptian people--with the exception of a few hundred, not thousands--support me. They see 99.9 percent of the Egyptian people support me. They do not understand why the Egyptian people support me. They do not understand that I- -who am one of the sons of the small Mit Abu al-Kawm and of the big Mit Abu al-Kawm, which is Egypt--freed myself from the complex, the hesitation and the fear after the October War. My self-confidence was restored. Therefore, there is no chance of my living again with the complexes of defeat and fear.

This is the reason for the current behavior of the Egyptian people. They are a genuine people behind whom there is civilization and there is no place for complexes among them. Complexes thrive among shallow people. Egypt is not shallow. Egypt has a history of 7,000 years and the first government and the first state was established in Egypt.

I told Carter that this is tongue-wagging. I told him that in our country we call this tongue-wagging. Someone brings up something which he knows you will not do. We were sitting on the second floor of the White House. The second floor of the White House is Carter's apartment. He gave a dinner for me. After the official dinner, Rosalyn entertained me. She knew I like westerns and how the west was won. She brought from a museum in the west all the things about the heroes of the west--Billy the Kid, Jesse James and others. She put all these things on the table.

Carter wanted to honor me more. He said let us sit on the second floor, which is his apartment, his home. We went upstairs. As we entered, I asked him where his small daughter was. After they became old, after they reached fifty, they had a baby girl. I laughed at him because in our country we laugh at these things. I told him some of our proverbs about this. He told me: Come I will show her to you.

We went to her room on the second floor. Afterward, we sat on the second floor. I asked him: What is the story of the nature of peace about which you are talking? He said: This time we want peace.

I told him: I agree with you. We want peace. He told me: Okay, still we must put this in its proper perspective so they will have no excuses. You are a friend. We have certain commitments to them which cannot be dropped. All of the American people support these commitments. Therefore, I want to reconcile things and pull the process together and you will achieve peace.

Until that time I had not given any thought to visiting Jerusalem. That was in February 1977. I again went to the United States in April 1977. I returned and Carter began to complete the peace process handed over to him by Ford and Kissinger. I am afraid if I tell the story in detail it will take 10 hours. I will try to be brief.

Carter began to work in April, as we agreed. I went twice, in February and April. Beginning in April, he launched an intensive effort and gave the peace process No 1 priority, although several big-mouths said it would have No 10 priority. No, he gave it No 1 priority and it is still No 1.

He began to work. I do not want to speak about the bitterness I experienced at the hands of the Palestinians and the Syrians.

What really tired me out was the bitterness which I experienced on the part of the Syrians and the Palestinians. Carter discovered it and they also inflicted it on him. The man had understood that we as Arabs have one stand. Naturally, as Arabs, our stand is one. I have decided that this clowning which they staged in Baghdad is a kind of outbidding. They wanted to say that our whole Arab stand is the return of the land occupied in 1967 and the restoration of the Palestinian people's rights. In this connection, is this not our stand?

[Question] Your Excellency, at this time we need peace. Furthermore, the treaty was not signed by 17 December as scheduled. All the objections have been of a purely Arab nature; in other words, we have never failed to link the treaty to the rights of the Palestinians and Egypt has not adhered to anything other than Arab obligations. What do they want, I wonder?

[Answer] Let me finish, Himmat, because you have interrupted my train of thought.

[Question] Well, Your Excellency?

[Answer] During 1977, after April and after I was with Carter there, the man exerted concerted efforts and gave the problem top priority until he suddenly discovered in September-October that.... In the letter he sent me, he told me: By God, brother, please understand. Your differences among yourselves as Arabs are worse and more intense than your differences with Israel. Please, for my sake, solve your inter-Arab differences, because at this point I am at an impasse. He is at an impasse because of the Arabs. What had happened? Well, I do not want to talk for 10 hours. The viewers will say that I am monopolizing the television. But I must talk since this occasion has presented itself.

What has Carter seen that made him reach this conclusion? One day Yasir 'Arafat came to me. He was with me in Al-Qanatir al-Khayriyah. This happened in September. Our foreign minister was then in New York at the United Nations. By coincidence, on that day, he left New York and went to Washington before [word indistinct] arrived, in September 1977.

Yasir was with me. I told him: Yasir, what are you going to do? In other words, we were working and all attention was centered on Geneva. This means we were all going to Geneva. The problem was whether only one Arab delegation or several Arab delegations should go to Geneva. From the beginning, I supported the idea of sending several Arab delegations. Even when Al-Asad asked me to send one Arab delegation at around the end of 1976 or the beginning of 1977, I told him: No, this will not be in our interest. Our interest lies in our going as delegations representing Egypt, Syria, Jordan, the Palestinians and Lebanon. Consequently, we would allocate roles for the delegations. I continued to hold this viewpoint until Carter sent word that he had begun to be cornered by the Arabs. He told me: Please, note that Syria insists on one delegation, while you say that it is better to send several delegations. Solve this problem for me, because it is causing trouble for me. Perhaps, if one delegation goes, the presence of the Palestinians within this delegation would be easy to deal with, instead of us having to face the problem of Palestinian representation as a separate problem. It would then become imperative for us to solve this problem.

Therefore, I answered Carter and told him: Yes, the matter is settled. I approve of one Arab delegation. I announced my approval. Syria had set the condition that it would only go as part of one delegation.

Suddenly, and after I had agreed on one delegation, Carter was surprised by Syria coming out and saying: No, we want several Arab delegations. This is the first point.

The second point is that Yasir 'Arafat was with me. I told him: Yasir, we will go as one delegation. I have agreed that we will be part of one delegation. I did this for your sake and now Carter is worried. Well, what is your opinion on this delegation, Yasir?

He told me: By God, I have an excellent idea. I asked: What is it Yasir? He said: What is your opinion on Palestinian professors in American universities? They are of Palestinian origin and they carry American nationality. They are now professors.

I said: God is great. This is the ultimate in political maturity because we will destroy Israel's excuses after this, Israel will not be able to talk about the terrorists, the thugs, or the PLO and its such and such qualities. When we include in the delegation--the delegation which will represent Palestine in the unified Arab delegation--one or two American professors now actually teaching in American universities and they are of Palestinian origin, nobody will say anything nor will Israel be able to say anything. I said: This is the peak of maturity. I told him: Yasir, are you serious about this? He told me: Yes.

He was sitting and the telephone was between us. I picked up the telephone and called the Foreign Ministry. I told them: Tell the minister to ask for an urgent appointment with Carter at my personal request and notify him of the following message, which is now on its way to you. I sent them the message which they were to convey to the minister in code. The message said that the representatives of the Palestinians in the one Arab delegation would be university professors of U.S. nationality and of Palestinian origin. They would be men now working as professors, and not retired professors.

By God, the Foreign Ministry sent the telegram to the foreign minister. The foreign minister asked for an urgent meeting with Carter. Carter canceled all his engagements because the minister was going to see him on my behalf.

In reality, Carter never fails to do anything and he is the leader of the richest and most powerful state in the world. They told him: There is a letter which As-Sadat wants delivered to you quickly. He canceled his engagements and received the foreign minister.

The foreign minister read the telegram to Carter. By God, the foreign minister described the expression on Carter's face as follows: Carter just opened his mouth, like this. He opened his mouth in surprise. Why? Because the telegram had solved a big problem. He had a headache pestering him: that is, Zionism and Israel, over the representation of the Palestinians. This was an ideal solution and the man did not want to anger anybody. But he also wanted to be on the side of justice.

Carter asked the foreign minister: Has As-Sadat sent this telegram? The minister told him: Yes. And As-Sadat says in the telegram that Yasir 'Arafat approves of this idea and he has personally suggested it to him? The minister told Carter: Yes. Carter told the minister: Brother, this is splendid. In this way we will not exhaust ourselves. Everything must be resolved in this spirit and with this deep political understanding.

Yasir 'Arafat left me. These things happened on the same day. In other words, they had asked for the meeting with Carter and all these things took place perhaps only a few hours after Yasir had visited. Carter had received the news and Carter and the foreign minister had met because, as I have said, Carter canceled his appointments.

A few days later, Carter and I were surprised by the PLO coming out with a statement saying: Never, this has not happened. This has never occurred.

Carter then sent word to me, he said: Syria wants a unified Arab delegation. When you agree, they say no. Then there is the question of a delegation or delegations. You send me a telegram about the representation of the Palestinians and the PLO comes out with a no. Brother, please note, your differences as Arabs are worse than your dispute with Israel. Please, settle these differences because in this way, we will achieve nothing. This statement came in what? It came in a letter written in his own hand. It did not pass through embassies and it was sent with a special envoy. Since our session on the second floor of the White House, which is his quarters, where we saw his little daughter, as I have told you....We sat for about 1 and ½ or 2 hours in his private quarters. We agreed on all the steps to be taken in the future.

He told me: In light of our meeting, please receive what I am sending you.

The situation then became clear to me: Syria does not want a solution. The Palestinians do not want a solution. The rest of the Arabs are afraid and confused. They live with a defeatist complex, fear and cultural backwardness. They are suffering from a million complexes. Neither I nor the Egyptian people suffer from complexes. Even the most insignificant person in Egypt does not suffer from these complexes, God be praised.

I discovered the following: The simple rationale behind my initiative was that it was imperative for me to take my cause into my own hands. Syria wants the Soviet Union to produce a solution for it. Or it wants the United States to find a solution for it. One day, Hafiz al-Asad asked me: Why don't we do like 'Abd an-Nasir in 1956?

I asked him: How? He told me: In 'Abd an-Nasir's time, in 1956 Eisenhower issued an order to Israel. Israel then withdrew along with England and France. Why doesn't the United States do this for us?

He wants the United States to do this for him while he turns his eyes to the Russians and he has some 20,000 or 30,000 Russian experts. Furthermore, he has no policy. Moreover, the misfortune which Al-Asad and the others have forgotten is that we are now in the 1970's, not in the 1950's. What was appropriate for the 1950's absolutely does not exist in the 1970's. Well, the United States is at the peak of its power and it is in the battle. Israel received from the United States what is called carte blanche. Do whatever you please, Israel, and the United States is behind you. As Americans, we have nothing to do with the solution. The solution is up to Israel and the Arab parties. Therefore, the issue would have never been solved because whenever any Arab party spoke to the Americans, they told that party: Go and talk to the Israelis. We do not interfere.

The 1950's are not the same as the 1970's. These people were still living in the 1950's. They also want Carter, as Eisenhower, to order Israel and tell it: Get out tomorrow and Israel would leave, as was done by Ben-Gurion, Eden and Mollet in France. The important thing is that I said: I will not abandon my issue. I will take my issue into my own hands because what do I want to achieve? It is true that I seek help from the United States, which is the only side which can influence Israel. I will only be able to seek help from the United States concerning what is right and just. This is so because the United States was totally partial to Israel. When what was right and just was placed before the United States, my hope was great that what has happened would occur. In other words, when the United States sees what is right and just and when it believes in this, then it will support what is just and right.

Why should I hide behind the United States or the Soviet Union? As for direct negotiations, who shall I allow to negotiate my issue? Why do not I take my issue into my own hands? This is my issue, the issue of my generations, the future of my children and the blood of my children who die. This is what was behind the initiative: That is, I took my issue into my own hands. Therefore, it was imperative for me to sit with Israel. Then, the question of direct negotiations became imperative.

It was imperative for me to raise my issue before the whole world in its true perspective. Afterward, I would seek the help of those friends of ours in the world who wanted to stand on our side. Why did we enter the battle? Because by the end of September 1977, the issue was about to enter into a phase of "no war, no peace". I would have never allowed this thing to happen and I would not have taken lightly the fact that we should have reached this phase. How? Because then the October War and all we had done would have been aborted along with the disengagement agreements and everything that we had built. Then the process would have ended and this would have satisfied the Israeli extremists. These extremists wanted the effect of the October War to disappear once and for all and they wanted us to return to the state of "no war, no peace" about which we would talk for 20 years.

At the end of September 1977, I realized that the issue was on the verge of entering the state of "no war, no peace." I saw this and I also saw the behavior of our Arab brothers, which disgusted everybody. It was pettiness, and not only pettiness, but also cheap outbidding. Furthermore, the destiny of the Arab nation and the destiny of Egypt was in the hands of minions. I made my decision to take an initiative through which I would prove to Israel and to the world that we are capable of assuming responsibility for our issue, of sitting on an equal footing at the table, and of discussing everything properly and justly. I began to think of the issue only after September 1977. Since February, since April 1977 up to September I was like all the Arabs and it was inconceivable to me to sit with Israel. How could direct negotiations be held? I understood that it was considered a matter of routine. That is to say, when we recognized Israel and so on, then the issue would end. No, the matter was deeper than this. Israel had already swallowed up everything and the matter had ended.

To prevent a state of "no war, no peace," I carried out my initiative. Why? Because this was the peak of action in the diplomatic battle. Indeed it was! Shall I tell you something? As I have been telling you right now: you plan destiny, and destiny scoffs at you. Can I claim ingenuity by having good intentions and sincerity? Can I claim that I forecast the effect which this initiative would generate?

I took one thing into account: I sincerely wanted peace. This was for myself, between me and my God, and my people. Everything that has happened is due to the fact that after a human being discharges his duty, the creator plays a great role in granting the reward. Naturally, the creator appreciates everything. As long as a man is honest with God, with himself and with his people, then a great reward comes.

The reward came to me. I had not imagined beforehand what it would be. Up to this day, I am receiving thousands of letters from the United States, Germany, England, France and from all over the world. This is something almost [unbelievable]. The initiative was carried out in November 1977. In November 1978, it had a greater influence than in November 1977 when the initiative began. The initiative is becoming even stronger with each passing day.

I carried out the initiative then and, as I said at the beginning of my interview, Begin sobered up from his hangover. He realized that his entire struggle was against such talk, against this settlement. Ten months later, he was forced to attend the Camp David conference. I have enumerated all those things. I could have spoken for 10 hours to give all the details of what I have said. However, I want to reach the main points and the conclusion.

Camp David has done the following: There will never again be a state of "no war, no peace." This state of "no war, no peace" derives from what? It derives from the fact that a cloudy situation exists. No, Camp David has provided a solid foundation for the peaceful settlement through two agreements. Agreement No 1 is the comprehensive settlement. This agreement stipulates in detail the solution of the Palestine problem in Gaza and the West Bank and the rights of the Palestinians and the refugees within the next 5 years after we sit together and sign.

In the second Camp David document--the agreement between Egypt and Israel--Israel fully recognizes--with the testimony of President Carter and with the approval of the Knesset--that Sinai is Egyptian land. It recognizes Egypt's sovereignty over Sinai--no airfields, no settlements, nothing.

More than that, when we sign the treaty and start implementing it, within a period of from 6 to 9 months--depending on what we will agree--the first stage of withdrawal will take place to a line extending from Al-'Arish to Ra's Muhammad. The withdrawal will cover an area equal to five-sixths of Sinai. After the first stage--by 1 1/2 or 2 years at the most--Israel must withdraw to the international borders between us and Palestine. This was officially put in writing. Therefore, there will be no return at all to the state of "no war, no peace."

The suspension of the talks which occurred during the past 10 months following my initiative could have brought us back to the state of "no war, no peace" had there been no Camp David. However, after Camp David we will not go back to a state of "no war, no peace." We will return to the Camp David agreements and determine when we will sign the treaty in accordance with Camp David.

Camp David, as I describe it, has ended the political problem and achieved the political, diplomatic solution once and forever. The problem is when we will sign. After we sign, we will count from 6 to 9 months for them to leave five-sixth of Sinai. After the 6 or 9 months, they will have 1 1/2 years to leave all Sinai and there will be autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza.

Therefore, the state of "no war, no peace" was ended once and for all at Camp David. This is why I told my sons in Al-Minya and Al-Mansurah and Dumyet that the problem of peace is no longer the No 1 problem. It is two or three. Without Camp David, it would still be a problem and the situation would be volatile and could ignite at any moment. With Camp David, there is no danger of things igniting. There is diplomatic give-and-take and steadfastness on the part of every one of us until we achieve peace.

I hope the same will happen in Israel. As for us, we are no less adamant on peace than all those people in the world who support us. We are more concerned about peace. The lack is on the part of the Israeli Government. Regrettably, the Israeli Government is conveying to its people things which do not serve the cause of peace.

This is about the building of peace. Do you want to hear more than this, Himmat? I think this is enough about the building of peace. It is clear now that we will not revert to the state of "no war, no peace." The problem has become problem No 2, because the foundations of a diplomatic solution were laid by two agreements which were signed. This is about the problem of peace.

[Question] Regarding the meeting of Dr Mustafa Khalil, Vance and Dayan....

[Answer] Oh, about the current situation. Look, my dear, concerning Dr Mustafa Khalil's meeting, Dr Mustafa Khalil traveled at the invitation of U.S. Secretary of State Vance to meet with him and Dayan. Everyone stuck to his own position. We stuck to our position. Israel stuck to its position. The United States stuck to its position. Therefore, the outcome of this is that the Egyptian and U.S. stands are the same and Israel's stand is different. I have not received anything new at this time because they met only yesterday, I believe, or will meet today. By God, I don't know.

The fact is that when I come to Mit Abu al-Kawm, the vice president conveys to me what happens. He has not talked with me about this subject and nothing new has come from Dr Mustafa. However, I have already explained this subject. The issue of peace has become clear.

[Question] About your going out into the streets of politics?

[Answer] You are talking about democracy, the building of democracy. As I said, the most serious things our people faced after the 1919 revolution were the wrong concepts about democracy which they taught to our people. All of you heard me say in Al-Minya, Al-Mansurah and Dumiyet and I will say it until doomsday that hundreds of years of democracy with mistakes is a lesser evil than 1 hour of dictatorship without mistakes. I have explained all this. There was a concept which had to be removed and this is what prompted me to go out into the streets of politics.

I believe that my people, relatives, sons and daughters are under the impression that the May revolution which took place a few months after I assumed office marked the beginning. The fact is that my operation did not begin 6 months after I assumed office. I abolished the custodianship. I eliminated the centers of power and closed the detention camps, thank God, less than 6 months after I assumed office. Nobody can allege that one detention camp has existed from May 1971 until now, more than 7 and 1/2 years. This will continue forever. Our people will not permit the reopening of the detention camps.

I prepared the permanent constitution in 1971, 7 years ago. We have done all this and I do not want to go into details. We have reached the position necessary to establish a sound democratic system. A sound democratic system requires the formation of many parties in order that there should be one opinion and an opposite opinion. We announced this most sincerely. God always blesses and abundantly rewards loyalty. I will record this for my sons, the vanguards, as their own experiment. I will narrate it the way it happened. We reached the stage of parties formation. Those who established the concepts of democracy before 1923 under the name of Al-Wafd tried to reestablish the same concepts. This was a big (?setback). Despite this, I warned more than once that there could be no return to the past and no backward steps. Despite this, they kept on believing that it was possible to exploit democracy to serve their goals, there whims and their grudges. We reached the situation where a referendum was held last May. I went down to the people and told them: Come and see the party life we have and see who wants to set up this life.

The problem was that the new Al-Wafd, which they talked about, was cooperating with the communists, the so-called Nasirites and some religious organizations. Some renegade members of these organizations were seeking to find a place for them in politics. All these held an alliance before the referendum. They agreed to return to the party and democratic life which existed before the 1923 revolution, which began with the 1923 parliament and ended with the 23 July 1952 revolution.

What were their concepts? They tried to make the country believe that democracy meant the existence of two parties and that the party activities meant defamation and differences on personal interests and that it meant persons and not principles. They went as far as committing the ugliest crimes against our people. I do not want this to be repeated. I am one of the people who admire Sa'd Zaghlul, may God bless his soul. I said that I used to go out to see An-Nahhas Basha when returning from the parliament to his home in Heliopolis. I lived then in the Al-Qubbah bridge area. During the school holidays, I used to go out to see An-Nahhas and applaud him. I used to do so when I was in the elementary and secondary schools.

I looked around and found out that they were teaching the people that occupation at the hands of Sa'd is better than independence at the hands of 'Adli. These were some of the slogans which were raised and were assumed to be a sign of Sa'd's popularity.

This is a pity. Why should we do this to our people? Is it right that I should reject the one who brings me independence and ends occupation and follow the other one who merely wants to settle hateful personal accounts? Why? This is a process which shows the nature of the political concept they taught the people. What was the result? One day, the British ambassador in Egypt surrounded the king's palace with tanks. The king was not liked here at the time. He was not the leader whom we were following. However, the king was the symbol of Egypt as long as he was on the throne. The British ambassador surrounded the king and imposed on him the so-called majority party. What happened the next day? The British ambassador, who insulted the dignity of Egypt, went to congratulate the new prime minister. The Al-Wafd youth carried the ambassador on their shoulders and cheered him.

The mentality of occupation at the hands of Sa'd rather than independence at the hands of 'Adli must end. What is the new mentality for which I went to the political street? We have been long and I really do not want to take more of the people's time. This is enough. What is the new political mentality, the real mentality which exists in all the democracies of the world? This mentality says that the struggle among the parties in the democracies and the sound democratic structures is for the sake of the people, man's dignity, and for the sake of the security of the citizen, his future and that of the coming generations and the prosperity of the citizen. When I was in Camp David in the United States, a campaign for the election of all U.S. governors was in progress. The competing governors appeared on television. What was their struggle about? None of them said occupation under so and so rather than independence at the hands of so and so. No.

They sit together. One of them says: I will reduce the taxes by so much in order that you may reach such a standard of prosperity. Another says: Do not believe him. He is the governor now but he has done nothing for you. I will tax you so much and will give you prosperity in such and such a way.

The struggle among them is: Who can provide the best possible prosperity for the U.S. citizen and reduce his taxes and burdens? This happens all over the world. The 1923 politicians taught us the harmful lesson that to be occupied at the hands of Sa'd is good for us but that we should say no to independence if it comes at the hands of 'Adli. This is the sick, distorted and weak mentality in the Arab world from which I am suffering. It is no longer the mentality of my people, thank God.

What is the new mentality in democracy which I am advocating now and for which I went to the political street? All of us in Egypt form one family which is called the Egyptian family. I have done this here in Mit Abu al-Kawm. We have now the Mit Abu al-Kawm family. The greatest thing in Egypt is the Egyptian family. What this family means is that our feelings toward one another should be the feelings of one family. A family has a head. The head of this family is the head of state. This family must be formed and must fulfill all its tasks. Each member should feel with his brother and all should feel with one another. All of us must adhere to our land, ethics and creed and to everything which this land has taught us.

Exercising politics comes after this. In exercising politics, the constitutional conditions require a multiplicity of parties in order that democracy may be sound. There should be one opinion. The only aim behind the multiplicity of the parties is to serve the prosperity of Egypt and its people, insure the security of the people and citizens of Egypt, and build Egypt in the most splendid way of building states.

After the family is formed by its head, we will apply the constitutional way of how the family will practice democracy. It was constitutionally agreed that parties will be formed. The formation of the parties is not the main thing. The main thing is the formation of the Egyptian family. Before 1023, they tried to make us believe that the parties were the main thing, that it was Sa'd and 'Adli who mattered and that we should prefer Sa'd to 'Adli. No. What matters is Egypt. Had they been mature at all, they would have not preferred Sa'd, 'Adli or anyone else. They were supposed to cooperate together according to the traditions practiced abroad and which I am now advocating. We must follow these traditions. They should have cooperated together to get rid of imperialism and the king, the enemies of the people. After that, they could have settled their own accounts. Instead, they slandered one another, and British imperialism and the king continued to rule as they wished. The politicians at the time sought the aid of the king and the British to fight one another. One of these politicians surfaced recently and tried, regrettably, to shamelessly form a party. After all this, he wanted to come and live with us and rule this country.

What is my logic? I say that we have formed the family at the summit. We must form the great family on the level of Egypt. I declare here that my position as the head of the Egyptian family means everything to me. It is this position, and not my position as the president of the republic or the president of the National Democratic Party, which concerns me. My greatest pride in my life is that I am the head of the Egyptian family which reunites us after being scattered. We were divided at one time and we quarreled with one another. Grudges and hatred were about to sweep us. Thank God, this is all over. The Egyptian family will be formed. I do not care at all to be the president of the republic or the leader of a party. What concerns me is that I should be the head of the Egyptian family. This is the logic I learned here on this land. The head of the family is the happiest man in the world. Everybody cooperates with him for the welfare of the family. Even when a child deviates, all the family gathers to cover up his deviation.

The logic I was following when I went out into the political arena is this: We have formed the Egyptian family. For the sake of the constitutional method, we will begin and initiate the practice of the view and the counterview. So that no minister, ruler or governor becomes despotic in his post, democracy requires that there should be a view and a counterview. Then, we will form ourselves into parties.

Therefore, and in accordance with the old concept, it would have been impossible for Sa'd to visit 'Adli, or 'Adli to visit Sa'd. No, I went and I visited Ibrahim Shukri in Shirbin yesterday. Why? Because I am the head of the Egyptian family. This is all a matter of my pride and my work--being the head of the Egyptian family. I went there and I told them what I am saying now. I said these things there in Shirbin. I told them: I am the head of the Egyptian family. This is the opposition and I am the head of the majority party. This is true, but I want an opposition.

I said I was astonished at Israel's ingratitude toward the United States and at the attack which was launched against Carter. I said: Why doesn't Carter speak up and say what he has taken from me for their sake and how he has pressured me in his capacity as their friend. Naturally, Carter took things and exerted pressure.

But so that those with the well-known intentions in the Arab world will stay in their place, I say that the taking and the pressuring jeopardize neither sovereignty nor land. Never, because you know that I have laid down these two principles and my people are behind me. They know the facts and they believe in this. However, there are security measures and so on and they want to be reassured. Well, we the peasants have a saying which goes like this: If this is his remedy, may God cure him. Well, he wants to take more security measures. If this is his remedy, may God cure him. Take a few more security measures. Carter took a great many things from me. However, if this is his remedy, may God cure him.

I said: By God, what is this ingratitude? The United States is not Egypt's lifeline, as it is Israel's lifeline. The United States is not our lifeline. It gives us aid, and we are grateful for this aid. We are very grateful. However, it is not our lifeline. If the United States cuts its aid to us, we have the incomes of the state employees, the incomes of the government employees and of the army. We also have agriculture and industry. We have also shed our blood and we have worked hard to achieve all these things. This is so because we have been bleeding ever since the 1967 war because we consume our own bodies, our own flesh, because nothing comes to us as a gift for the recent open-door polich which I initiated.

Regarding Israel's ingratitude, the Egyptian people want to show who are the people who uphold values and morals. We have a treaty referred to as the 1888 treaty, or the Constantinople Treaty of 1888. This treaty was signed following the construction of the Suez Canal. It was signed in Constantinople because we were then under Turkish colonialism. In the wake of the British occupation of 1882, the treaty was signed in Constantinople. There are signatories to this treaty. Who are they? There is the Russian empire. Naturally, the signature was inherited by the Soviets. That is, the Russians. There is also the Austrian empire. Austria inherited the signature. There is the British empire. The signature was inherited by Britain. There is also the French empire. All these are signatories of the treaty, with the exception of the United States. Why? Because at that time, the United States was not yet a great power.

I say simply that our people want to express their feelings. No, no lifeline nor anything else comes to us from the United States. But there is an understanding. We also have morals and ethics. Therefore, I said: By God, I will ask the Egyptian People's Assembly that we--in our capacity as the owners of the canal and of this treaty--consider the United States as a signatory side by side with the Soviet Union, Britain, France and the United States. [as heard] This is particularly so because when the canal was being prepared for its reopening in 1978, the United States incurred 99 percent of the expense--and the United States has not asked me to pay these expenses up to this day. This is despite the fact that our present revenue from the canal now totals $570 million annually. In other words, this is something like a project, because what would it cost to survey or clear such a project which yields $570 million annually? Never, the United States has not asked me to pay.

I do not even know how much the United States has paid and it has not asked me to pay anything, and the matter is closed. Therefore, I say [word indistinct], we make this decision, this gesture. I was talking about....

[Question] We were talking about democratic life.

[Answer] Yes, yes, yes. I went out into the political arena, as I am saying, to tell them we do not want such destruction. The matter is not one of the persons of Sa'd and 'Adli. We have made it Sa'd, 'Adli, Nahhas, and so and so. Meanwhile, we have forgotten Egypt. We have forgotten our major cause. I say, I went to them there in the party and I told them I am coming here as the head of the family. It is true that I am the head of the majority party, and the head of the majority party wishes to have 316 seats out of 360. With these seats, he would cancel everything and change the course of history, because he can amend the constitution and do anything.

No. True, I enjoy a majority. But I devote attention to democracy. I also insist on the country practicing the true concept of democracy. I also told them there: I have made this gesture concerning the canal for the....

[Question] For the Americans?

[Answer] For the Americans. While I was traveling on the train, opposition leader Ibrahim Shukri was with me. He was with me on the train, not because I am the leader of the majority party. This train is the property of the state and I am the head of the Egyptian family on my way to visit the Egyptian family in Shirbin, his town. I own more of the Egyptian family than he, despite the fact that it is his town. Well, he must be with me. When it comes to major objectives, that is, the major objective of the family, we would stand as one man. Well, he was with me on the train. So, I asked him: What is your opinion, Ibrahim, of the story of the treaty which I spoke about today in Al-Mansurah?

Ibrahim is in the opposition, but he is an honest and honorable member of the opposition. He does not resort to slanders and obscenities, as they had accustomed the people to do. This is not only a concept of persons, no, but it is a matter of slander and obscenity, such as those which occurred during the past two sessions of the People's Assembly, regrettably. They were also drawing the country to these slanders and obscenities. Never. Ibrahim told me: By God, Your Excellency, I appreciate what you have said to the effect that Egypt is expressing itself before the world. Egypt wants to show that those to whom the lifeline goes are ungrateful, but we are people of morals and values and we will ultimately triumph. However, and by God, Your Excellency, I prefer that we abrogate this treaty. This is better. My position is that it is imperative for us to revoke this treaty. This is better. However, if we must retain the treaty, then let it be, because a balance will be achieved by the entry of the United States. However, my opinion is that we should ultimately abrogate it.

[Question] Would abolishing the treaty give more sovereignty to Egypt, Your Excellency?

[Answer] Never. In other words, and in fact, revoking it would not change our position much. However, its abrogation would give the impression that we are evading our international obligations--and we do not evade them, nothing of the sort. In itself, the treaty does not harm Egypt's sovereignty in any way. Since it does not jeopardize Egypt's sovereignty, the matter is closed. This is the stand of the opposition. He told me this thing and I do not know.

Perhaps in the assembly he will pursue this line of the opposition. Nothing has happened. I was standing while we were talking and while we were entering Shirbin, his town. On the next day, we entered Shirbin by train. On the next day, the people found me in his home.

Our entire struggle centers on the major objective. The mother is Egypt. When it comes to Egypt's objectives, we all stand as one man, just as the Israeli Knesset the day before yesterday stood on Begin's side. I say this to my people, and the world knows and Israel knows. The majority in the Knesset stands against Begin's obduracy and intransigence. However, the majority in the Knesset stood by Begin because the breakdown of Begin's position would represent the collapse of Israel's position. This is how things are done. This is democracy; this is the democratic concept--and I need not speak for 10 hours. We must finish, Himmat, the time has passed.

[Question] How? Will measures be adopted?

[Answer] This is not my duty, really.

[Question] Will they reassure the people?

[Answer] They will reassure the people in the sense that the susidies will go to those who deserve them. The student will be able to take a loaf of bread with him to school. I have paid 50 million pounds as a subsidy for my sons, the students. I will not pay this sum again but I will enable them to take the loaf of bread with them. They deserve the subsidy more than anybody else. It is not the cake bakers who deserve this subsidy.

[Question] In general and without going into detail, will there be deterrent laws or state measures against these few exploiters?

[Answer] I have not forgotten that I said at the beginning of my conversation that we are living the most glorious moments of our history and life. Yes, there will be measures, and not only in this field. Effective 1 January, there will be measures against any of my sons who act disorderly in the cinemas. I have given instructions and I will see the governors on Wednesday, God willing. As of this Saturday, God willing, there will be no misconduct in the cinemas, no indiscipline in this streets and no ethical misconduct anywhere. There will be no annoyance. The People's Assembly exists and I believe that the kidnaping and molesting of girls should be punished by death. This should be applied at once and without any discussions. There are things which the conscience of our people demands. There will be discipline as of 1 January. I know all this.

[Question] The behavior in the Egyptian street should be changed?

[Answer] It must. I have gone farther than this. The people will not believe it, but I do not want to talk because I do not [words indistinct] what happened. I imported the cheapest consumer car in the world--the Volkswagen. When I was in the United States, it was advertised on television. The cheapest consumer car in the world is the Volkswagen. I imported Volkswagen cars and the ministers will receive them. All their big cars will be at my disposal as of this Saturday, God willing. Many operations will be implemented as of 1 January. Prices will be fixed and subsidies will be given to those who deserve them. There will be measures against my sons who forget the values and misbehave in the cinemas. There will be measures against misconduct in the streets. There will be measures in the offices. There will be instructions to the governors.

I gave them instructions and will give them more on Wednesday. If a citizen must come to Cairo from a governorate to discharge a matter, I will consider the governor to be wrong and I will dismiss him because all the people's interests must be served on the spot.

[Question] How will they be made to account and how will the followup be [words indistinct] people stray?

[Answer] The governor has heads of branches under him. He has the head of the health, security and other branches. They are his aides and they constitute a small cabinet. They governor is the small president of the republic because he will assume the powers of the president of the republic in his own governorate. He is the small president of the republic and his aides are his ministers. The local council is his parliament which will deal with him.

[Question] Is this the beginning of the administration revolution?

[Answer] It is the democratic picture and the democratic concept. They didn't just tell us things about persons in the past. They didn't just tell us about persons in parties, but they told us much worse things. They told us that the pasha was the director. When we came to power we eliminated the pashas who were the deputies of the authority. The governor now is the deputy of the people whom they trust and who hails from the governorate itself. He is the top party official in the governorate. He and the party committee, members of the People's Assembly and the governorate's people have full powers. It is true that the governor is a party member but he is also governor of the family, which is called the governorate. On the level of all Egypt, I am not only the president of the National Democratic Party. I say that my only pride is that I am the head of the family. The governor is the head of all the governorate family including parties and others. If he implements the party's policy, the party and its platform will be judged by the success or failure of the governor.

The battle will continue in all branches of life as of 1 January. This is why I say I that this battle has top priority and not the question of peace. The foundations of establishing peace have been laid and what remains are the top storys. The foundations have been laid far from the swamps of war, of no peace, of conflict, of whims and objects. All this has ended and what remains is that we climb the upper story's. Today we are laying down the foundations of democracy because it is democracy which will definitely lead to prosperity.

I have many other things in mind for the poor officials who cannot own an apartment now because they do not have 2,000 pounds for a down payment. I want them to own their houses. I do not approve of rents at all. I want the state to build and create landlords. The officials suffer most. The junior officials in the state and the workers in the public sector are my sons of the Egyptian family. The lot of the workers in the public sector has improved and will improve further. They earn 7 to 8 pounds daily. I have something in mind for the former, God willing.

[Question] Are talking about all graduates or only the new ones?

[Answer] I am not talking about graduates. I am talking about junior officials. What good will it do if I improve the lot of the new graduates and leave the junior officials, who are a majority and who do not possess a house, a television or a refrigerator. I have new plans but I do not want to talk much because the wheel will turn, God willing, as of 1 January and the people will know about these plans successively.

You made me talk about things which I did not want to bring up. I want to compensate some people. I do not want you to get the impression that these plans have been implemented.

[Question] [Word indistinct] wants to be reassured about the line [words indistinct].

[Answer] We will have mercy on the people and finish. We will have mercy....

[Question] The fact is that these are points which concern the people....

[Answer] It interests me that they see them after they are implemented and not merely told that they will be implemented. I spoke about the ministers because the Volkswagen cars have already been received. I will begin sending these cars and receiving the old ones next week.

[Question] There are two other points which require no details, if you permit. They are the people's food supplies and housing. The people want to feel....

[Answer] I do not say this only. I say that I am living with every junior official and worker in order that he may own a house and means of prosperity. Do not ask me when. I do not say food only. I want him to own and to enjoy happiness at home. I want him to have a television set, prosperity and comfort. I want all this for him. I do not want the gentlemen in Cairo alone to have hot water. I want everybody to have hot water, as is the case in Mit Abu al-Kawm. By the way, they have hot water in Mit Al-Kawm.

[Question] Your Excellency said more than once that 1980 will mark the beginning of prosperity and the end of the suffering of the masses. Do you still hold to this opinion?

[Answer] Yes, 1980 will mark the beginning regarding very essential things. You probably heard me say that the first stage of the Suez Canal will be completed in 1980, increasing the canal tolls to $1 billion annually. The petroleum production will then reach to 1 million barrels daily. This will give me a further $1 billion income. I will need 1 billion pounds to settle debts, 1 billion pounds to provide subsidies and 1 billion pounds for the armed forces. I will have a 1-billion income from the Suez Canal and 1 billion from petroleum, not in pounds but in dollars. My calculations were based thus.

The petroleum income from Sinai will be delayed a little because the Israelis are procrastinating in signing the agreement with us. However, there is nothing to the matter. There has been an agreement but the question is when will it be implemented. As I have told you this is over. What does it mean when we say that there will be relaxation everywhere in 1980? It means that the citizen will find food at a suitable price, that his income will be appropriate and that he will begin to feel prosperity by living in a happy home and hoping to own a happy home with all means of prosperity. This will happen by the end of 1980. I pray God that I will be able then to retire here in Mit Abu al-Kawm and rest and that the new generations will rise and complete what we began, God willing.

[Question] Are our present resources sufficient to invade the desert and provide food security?

[Answer] You are dragging me to a subject which I do not want to disclose now. I summed up matters when I said that to rebuild Egypt we need a plan similar to that of rebuilding Germany after the war, that is to say a process of total rebuilding because at our present rate, a reason which I also gave, we are proceeding slowly. No, there must be a complete plan in order that we may be able to confront all our problems at the same time. The move toward this plan will be announced, God willing. However, as I accustomed my country, I do not want to precede events. I say that in 1979 we will begin one of the most glorious years of our life. There will be something new each day of this year, God willing.

[Question] I will not take more of your excellency's time but at the end of the interview each year, you address a special message to the citizens. In what direction do you wish the message to be this year?

[Answer] It will always be in the direction which I keep telling you about. Today, thanks be to God, I feel most happy as the head of the Egyptian family. I feel most happy by the people's love and feelings and by my love to them. I mentioned the German example which says: To love and be loved is the greatest blessing in life. Truly, there is no blessing greater than that a man should love and feel that he is loved. This is the greatest blessing. I came to Mit Abu al-Kawm to see something more splendid than this. It is what happened and what I talked to you about. I want to tell our people: Let it be known to you that the road to love is the big family and the love of the big family. The big family is above all parties, disputes, persons, trivialities and cheap emotions. The big family is more durable and glorious than all this. By love, fraternity, forgiveness and great heart we can build a homeland of which we and our sons after us will be proud--a homeland in which to build prosperity and everything that makes life strong and honest throughout. Thank you.

DEFENSE MINISTER 'ALI INTERVIEWED ON TELEVISION

NC2317152 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1509 GMT 23 Dec 78 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 23 December--Minister of Defense and War Production Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali has affirmed that Egypt's strategy aims at maintaining a strong army capable of defending its territory and capable of fulfilling Egypt's responsibilities toward the Arab and African states whenever it is asked to do so. He affirmed that this strategy is based on Egypt's cultural and historic responsibility.

In an interview he granted to Egyptian television, to be broadcast tonight, the defense minister said that any country unable to defend itself with strength at any time may lose parts of its territory and its rights. He stressed that Egypt's strategy will never allow this.

Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali said that the plan to develop the armed forces is continuing in order to modernize these forces and bring them up to a high standard of combat capability. He said that the policy of diversifying the sources of arms to include most West European countries and the United States is continuing in order to replace the Soviet Union as the source of arms.

As for Egypt's policy toward the Arab Organization for Military Industrialization, Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali affirmed that this policy is firm and will continue. He said that there is no change in the organization's policy, which aims at introducing modern technology into the Arab military industries.

Answering a question about his assessment of the situation following the interruption of the peace negotiations, Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali affirmed in his interview that peace will come sooner or later, because President Anwar as-Sadat's peace initiative now belongs to the world and no state or man can stand against the current of peace in the wake of this initiative.

He noted that it is possible for the peace negotiations to stumble or to advance. However, the principal line; namely, peace in the area, will ultimately prevail. The defense minister affirmed that the whole world is fully aware that the political leadership, which was capable of making the decision to launch war in 1973 and of taking the bold peace step represented by the initiative, is also capable of confronting the various situations.

Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali pointed out that had it not been for the performance of the armed forces in 1973 and the Egyptian people's potentials, President as-Sadat would not have made the initiative. In this respect, he emphasized that the abilities of the leader and of the armed forces generate support for the position of the negotiators and for the initiative.

Concerning Israel's attitude, the defense minister pointed out that most Israeli leaders require some time to understand the nature of the new phase, for which they have not prepared themselves even after the 30-year conflict. However, he said that he is confident that there are Israeli leaders who are fully aware of the nature of the upcoming phase.

The defense minister then spoke of the U.S. attitude. He affirmed that many Jewish leaders within the United States now understand the danger in Israel's intransigence and understand the next phase.

He affirmed that the U.S. position as a whole, both that of the U.S. administration and that of the U.S. people, fully understands the requirements of peace in the Middle East. He said that the United States seeks to lay the foundation of peace on the basis of justice, right and insuring the rights of the states of the area as a whole.

REPORTS OF 2D KHALIL-VANCE-DAYAN MEETING 'PREMATURE'

LD262316Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2230 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, 26 December, MENA--Commenting on the reports today that a second meeting is likely to be held among Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil, Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, a responsible Egyptian source said in Cairo that the report is premature.

The source added that so far no contacts have been made with Cairo on the matter.

7-DAY MOURNING PERIOD DECLARED ON BOUMEDIENE'S DEATH

JN271111Y Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 27 Dec 78 JN

[Excerpts] Algerian President Houari Boumediene died today after suffering a sudden relapse last night.

An official weeklong mourning period is to be observed in Jordan on the death of President Boumediene. An announcement by the prime minister's office said that during the mourning period starting today, flags will fly at half mast on official buildings and government departments.

AMMAN VIEWS REPORTED CURB OF U.S. EFFORTS IN MIDEAST

JN261730Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Dec 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] NBC reported last night that President Carter's administration intends to curb its activities vis-a-vis the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations and at present to stop performing the role of mediator working to minimize differences between the two sides. This new stand of the United States can be regarded as a semifinal result of the efforts made by the U.S. administration for well over 13 months to reach a settlement to the dispute and crisis of the Middle East.

The failure of the tripartite talks which took place in Brussels the last 2 days has prompted the U.S. administration to freeze its mediation role and to devote its attention to other domestic and foreign issues. The failure of the U.S. administration to condemn the side which caused the failure of the negotiations and neutralized the Camp David resolutions clearly indicates that President Carter's administration does not want to initiate an open battle with Israel and the Zionist lobby in the United States.

However, the failure of the tripartite meeting should provide Egypt with the ideal opportunity to prove its goodwill and desire to achieve peace by holding Israel entirely responsible for the failure through regarding this failure as a decisive turningpoint allowing Egypt to return to the Arab fold again.

While the United States has its reasons and justifications for failure to initiate an open battle with Israel and the Zionist movement at this phase in particular, Egypt has no reason or justification to delay the declaration of its stand which stems from its belonging to the Arab nation and which is in harmony with its cultural heritage. It is true that the age of begging has gone, as President as-Sadat has said. This means that there is no reason to resume the negotiations in the aftermath of the failure of the recent tripartite meeting held in Brussels between the Egyptian prime minister, the Israeli foreign minister, and the U.S. secretary of state.

Will Egypt refuse to go along with Israeli designs aimed at prompting Egypt to continue the negotiations on the basis of the Camp David agreements which no longer exist in the Israeli vocabulary? Or is Egypt still hoping for further Israeli concessions in accordance with the Camp David agreements which have been rejected by the Arabs and Palestinians?

The failure of the tripartite meetings has led to repercussions vis-a-vis the Western countries. There is increasing apprehension over Western interests in the Middle East as a result of the defeat of the peace initiative in the face of the wall of Israeli obstinacy.

If progress toward a Middle East peace on the basis of the participation of all concerned sides to reach a just and comprehensive settlement is to be made, the United States should contribute to such progress in an effective manner and shoulder its responsibilities toward the peace, security and stability of the Middle East and the whole world. If the West is afraid of a big setback to its interests in the Middle East as a result of the aggressive, expansionist policies of Israel, the primary responsibility to cope with this situation should be shouldered by the West itself, particularly the United States.

The West has not made a real and comprehensive peace initiative on the basis of the known UN resolutions. Therefore, any threat to Western interests in the Arab area will not be because of the Arabs, and the Arabs will not be responsible for it. The responsibility for this threat is borne by Israel, which refuses to settle the dispute on a just and comprehensive basis, and by the Western countries, which have so far failed to tackle the Arab-Zionist dispute from its roots on the basis of UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

The backing down of the United States as mediator because of its failure to establish an imbalanced, unjust and noncomprehensive peace and, consequently, a peace rejected by the Arabs and the Palestinians, does not mean at all that the area is being left to the worst possibilities created by the aggressive, expansionist Israeli policy. International and human responsibilities dictate that the whole world community contribute to a new move under the auspices of the United Nations--a move capable of bypassing all the former abortive attempts to lay down the foundations of a just, durable and comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

SOMALI MINISTER HOLDS TALKS WITH OFFICIALS

JN231307Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Dec 78 JN

[Text] 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, minister of information, this morning received Hussein Abd al-Qadir Qasim--envoy of Somali president and minister of mineral and water development. The two ministers reviewed bilateral relations and the situation in the Horn of Africa, particularly following the military operations earlier this year of the Ethiopian forces, which are supported by Cuban forces.

The visiting minister asserted that the West Somali Liberation Front, which will open offices in various Arab capitals, is still fighting the Ethiopian forces to liberate the occupied territories. The minister explained that the Ethiopian Army only controls main cities in the occupied region of Ogaden while most of the region is controled by the West Somali Front.

Hasan Ibrahim, minister of state for foreign affairs, also received the Somali envoy and discussed the current situation in the Arab area and recent developments in the Middle East issue.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH IRAQ SIGNED IN AMMAN

JN261557Y Amman JNA in Arabic 1525 GMT 26 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Amman, 26 December--Jordan and Iraq today signed an agreement according to which Jordan will export to Iraq consumer goods worth $2 million in addition to the commodities agreed on earlier this week for export to Iraq. These commodities are worth $5 million.

This was announced today by Dr Hashim ad-Dabbas, under secretary of the Jordanian Ministry of Industry and Commerce, and Sa'd 'Abd al-Hadi ar-Rahim, director general of the General Establishment for Consumer Goods in Iraq and chairman of the Federation of Iraqi Chambers of Commerce.

BUTRUS CALLS FOR MAINTAINING PEACEKEEPING ROLE OF UNIFIL

NC270650Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus said in a press statement published today that efforts must now be concentrated on maintaining the UN emergency forces as UN peacekeeping forces and not allowing them to become mere observer forces. If the UN Security Council is able to reinforce their role in the field, this will be beneficial. However, before this reinforcement is made, it is necessary to study all aspects of the question with all those concerned in order to know what we can achieve.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS SHOOTING INCIDENTS IN BEIRUT

NC261303Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 26 Dec 78 NC

[Excerpt] In Ad-Dikwanah area Arab Deterrent Forces manning roadblocks opened intermittent sniper fire at Ra's ad-Dikwanah quarter, making the road unsafe.

Intermittent shooting and sniper fire is being heard from time to time in the southern suburb. However, calm has been prevailing in As-Sayfi area.

In the Burj al-Barajinah area, armed men ambushed public security employee 'Imad ad-Duhaybi, who was killed instantly.

ARMY BATTALION IN SOUTH MAY BE REINFORCED SOON

NC270643Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 27 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Within the framework of Lebanese military preparations to participate with the UN forces in the maintenance of peace in southern Lebanon as soon as the current consultations achieve positive results, the army command is expected to reinforce the army battalion in Kawkaba within the next few days. If this takes place, it is possible that this battalion would take over a UN position, and the UN forces in that position would advance to forward positions.

ISRAELI MOVEMENTS ON BORDER CAUSE CONCERN IN LEBANON

NC270845Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0815 GMT 27 Dec 78 NC

[Text] A cautious calm has prevailed since this morning in various areas of the capital and its suburbs while attention is focused on the outcome of the security meeting due to be held now in the presidential palace in B'abda, which will precede the cabinet meeting due to begin at 1130 today.

Reports from southern Lebanon say that the Israeli movements on the border have caused concern, although an Israeli spokesman has confirmed that Israel does not intend to take any action in the area as Palestinian actions have thus far not warranted any intervention.

Activities Reported

JN271028Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0935 GMT 27 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 27 December--The Zionist occupation forces have forced the inhabitants of the border village of Marun ar-Ras in southern Lebanon to evacuate their homes and leave the village.

The village has been declared a restricted area and the Zionist enemy has established a number of military camps and shelters there.

Reports from border villages in southern Lebanon note that the Zionist enemy has concentrated 155 and 175 mm artillery batteries in the plain between Rumaysh and the occupied territories. The Zionist enemy has also established a number of military posts near the villages of Yarun and 'Aytarun.

The reports also point out that the Zionist enemy has brought in reinforcements to the western and central sectors and has blocked all approaches to the roads being used by the reinforcements. The Zionist enemy has also stepped up its patrols in area where the UNIFIL forces are located.

The reports confirm that the Iskandarun port currently being built by the Zionist enemy near the coastal town of An-Naqurah has three docks and now is ready for operation. The Zionist navy has carried out an offloading test on one of the docks.

UNIFIL Deputy Commander General Cook toured the area and will submit a report on these activities to international circles.

Construction work at the Burj al-Khiyah Airport is continuing. Enemy bulldozers are opening water channels near the airport, which is ready for aircraft now that it has been equipped with a control tower and lights.

RIGHTISTS CONTINUE MILITARY CONTACTS WITH ISRAEL

JN261311Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1245 GMT 26 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 26 December--It was learned here today that Nihad Shalhat, alias Abu Kamal, one of the military leaders of the National Liberals Rightist Party, on Saturday began military talks with the Zionist enemy in occupied Palestine with the aim of obtaining new war reinforcement for the rightist militia.

Reliable sources have revaled that the Lebanese Army has recently seized Zionist-made military supplies sent to the militias via the port of Juniyah, something which eventually led to recent clashes between the army and the rightist militias.

PALESTINIAN, LEBANESE JOINT COMMAND MEETS UNDER 'ARAFAT

JN270822Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 27 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, last night presided over a meeting of the joint command of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese nationalist movement. The discussion during the meeting centered on the current situation in the Arab and international arenas, particularly the situation in Lebanon. The conferees also discussed the issue of the security of the positions of the Palestinian revolution and Lebanese movement, as well as coordination with the Arab Deterrent Forces and the Lebanese authorities. They discussed all measures and requirements necessary to confront the eventualities that might result from the procedures announced yesterday by the Zionist authorities regarding alerting and mobilizing the Zionist reservists.

SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE FROM KHALID

JN271135Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 27 Dec 78 JN

[Text] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Saudi Foreign Minister His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, met in Damascus this morning in the presence of Saudi Ambassador in Damascus Shaykh 'Abd al-Muhsin az-Zayd.

His Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal arrived in Damascus this morning. He was welcomed at Damascus International Airport by Khaddam.

In a statement to the press at the airport, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal stated that he is carrying a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from His Majesty King Khalid of Saudi Arabia.

TISHRIN ON AS-SADAT'S ATTEMPT TO RETURN TO 'ARAB FOLD'

JN250900Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 25 Dec 78 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] Commenting in its "Behind the News" column under the headline "As-Sadat's attempt To Infiltrate Back into the Arab Ranks," the newspaper TISHRIN says: Recently the news media of the Egyptian regime have gone back to talking about Arab solidarity. They have referred to imminent Egyptian moves to restore this solidarity. This makes us wonder what is behind such talk by the Egyptian media.

Only recently As-Sadat has been describing other Arabs as ignorant and stupid and has been saying that billions of dollars would not prevent him from proceeding with his separate policies. Just a few weeks ago As-Sadat turned down the final attempt by the Arabs during the ninth Arab summit in Baghdad to persuade him to return to the Arab fold and stop the enormous concessions he was making to Israel. As-Sadat declined to meet the delegation representing the Arab kings and presidents.

The paper asks: What has now made As-Sadat go back to talking about Arab solidarity? Is there any connection between the talk about solidarity and the big propaganda campaign that attended the recent suspension of the Egyptian-Israeli talks portraying As-Sadat as a tough negotiator before Israel? At any rate, is what As-Sadat brags about an Arab demand? TISHRIN says: U.S. President Jimmy Carter said recently that what As-Sadat is currently demanding actually originated from a previous proposal made by Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan. Therefore, are the Arabs being asked now to show solidarity with As-Sadat's current stance, which was in fact an Israeli stance?

TISHRIN continues: There is no doubt that As-Sadat cannot go back on the concessions he made to Israel and the United States because he has become the captive of these concessions. This means that there cannot prossibly be any agreement between the Arabs and As-Sadat. The Arabs defined their position at the Baghdad summit by rejecting the Camp David agreements, and As-Sadat defined his position at Camp David by agreeing to serve as a pawn in the Arab-Israeli game in the area.

The newspaper concludes: If As-Sadat thinks he can infiltrate back into the Arab ranks through stances that are originally Israeli stances, then he is mistaken. He is also mistaken if he thinks that he can exploit the Arab solidarity issue against Israel. It is now a firmly established fact that As-Sadat has fallen in the enemy camp. There can be no return for him to the Arab fold.

ALGERIA

ALGIERS RADIO ANNOUNCES PRESIDENT BOUMEDIENE'S DEATH

LD270811Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0750 GMT 27 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Announcement: The nation is in mourning. The president of the republic and chairman of the Council of the Revolution, President Houari Boumediene died at dawn today, at 0355, at Moustapha University Hospital, where he has been undergoing treatment since 18 November 1978. His health condition deteriorated suddenly last night.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY MEETS; BITAT ACTING HEAD OF STATE

[Editorial Report LD] Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic at 1110 GMT on 27 December begins carrying a live relay of a meeting of the National People's Assembly. The announcer notes that the session is being attended by members of the Council of the Revolution and the government, but no names are given.

The session begins with one minute of silence in memory of the Houari Boumediene.

Following the minute of silence, the assembly is addressed by President of the National People's Assembly Rabih Bitat.

Bitat delivers a eulogy to Boumediene and then notes that in accordance with the constitution, the first task of the People's Assembly meeting is to declare the presidency of the country vacant.

At 1117 GMT Bitat gives the rostrum to Minister of Health Messaoudene, who reads a report by a team of medical doctors certifying the death of Boumediene.

At 1118 GMT the rostrum is taken by the chairman of the Judicial Committee of the assembly, who reads an article from the constitution which states that in case of a vacancy in the presidency, "the president of the National People's Assembly shall assume the duties of the head of state for a maximum period of 45 days, during which presidential elections shall be organized, on the condition that the president of the National People's Assembly shall not be nominated as a candidate for the presidency."

At 1126 GMT Bitat once again takes the rostrum and pledges to fulfill all duties entrusted to him in accordance with the constitution. He pledges to continue the policies of Houari Boumediene.

Bitat concludes his speech at 1132, at which time the National People's Assembly session and the live relay end.

Paris AFP in English at 1200 GMT on 27 December in its report on the People's Assembly session adds that a state funeral for Boumediene has been set for Friday and 40 days of national mourning decreed.

MINISTERS CRITICIZE DAYAN'S POSITION AT BRUSSELS MEETING

TA262009Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Next week the cabinet will continue the political debate which began today, on the foreign minister's report on his talks in Brussels with the prime minister of Egypt. Ministers Tamir, Burg, Nissim, Levi, Landau and Yadin took part in today's debate. The cabinet session was held within the framework of the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs. Here is the report from our political correspondent, Elimelekh Ram:

From remarks made by ministers before the session it was possible to understand that there is no trend toward moderating the line taken by the cabinet and that, at the end of the debate, the Cabinet of Israel will repeat its announcement of 15 December: willingness to agree to discuss the security arrangements in Sinai, without mentioning any date for the discussion--Article 4. The Egyptians are demanding that the discussion be held after 5 years. The cabinet will also express willingness to discuss an accompanying letter which will deal with the establishment of autonomy, but again, without mentioning any date, not even a target date.

We must remember, one of the ministers said to me, that not only did Prime Minister Khalil speak in Brussels, but at the same time, President as-Sadat also spoke in Egypt and demanded an Israeli evacuation from the territories because of Egypt's victory in the Yom Kippur War and not as a result of negotiations. Prime Minister Begin repeated that the cabinet's decisions remain as they were.

The foreign minister is being attacked by the ministers on two issues, that while in Brussels Khalil spoke in generalities, Dayan spoke about concrete topics. The ministers are also criticizing the foreign minister's statements on his return from Brussels. Dayan said that the two sides should move toward each other. The critics are asking: How far must Israel still go, after all, according to the proposal by the foreign minister himself, the cabinet has announced that, as far as it is concerned, the agreement is closed and sealed. The foreign minister claims that he was not understood correctly at Ben-Gurion Airport. He regards the willingness to discuss Article 4 and the accompanying letter as making the position more flexible. Basically the ministers believe that the agreement will be signed, even if only because of Egypt's desire to get the Sinai without Israeli settlements and to get the oil-fields in the peninsula. So, they say there is no need to rush. We must receive U.S. guarantees for oil supplies in view of what is happening in Iran. The debate in the cabinet has not ended, and we should remember that anyone who expects far-reaching decisions beyond those in existence is likely to be disappointed.

Begin Reaffirms Position

TA262017Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 26 Dec 78 TA

[Text] This evening the prime minister said that Israel was prepared to hold negotiations on a letter pertaining to the arrangements concerning autonomy and on redrafting Article 4 without fixing a 5-year timetable for the reexamination of the treaty. We have closed no door and we are prepared to continue the negotiations, the prime minister said, but we will be unable to agree to Egyptian demands, which empty the treaty of its contents.

He reiterated the points which Israel is not prepared to accept: an interpretation of the treaty which renders it ineffective when there is a contradiction between it and Egyptian commitments within the Arab world; conditioning the exchange of ambassadors on the implementation of autonomy; a demand that the treaty be reexamined at the end of a predetermined period of time, such as 5 years. We are not prepared and cannot accept these demands, the prime minister said.

Negotiations Likely To Resume

TA270706Y Jerusalem POST in English 27 Dec 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[By David Landau]

[Text] Israel is likely to call next week for a resumption of the treaty negotiations with Egypt, and to indicate its readiness to reconsider its position regarding Article 4 of the draft peace treaty (the "review clause") and regarding the accompanying letter on creating the Palestinian autonomy. This is the assessment of well-placed sources in Jerusalem following a special cabinet meeting yesterday at which Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan reported on his weekend talks in Brussels with Egypt's Premier Mustafa Khalil and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance. The cabinet will continue its discussion on Sunday.

Israel will be prepared to negotiate on the other three disputed issues too--the exchange of ambassadors, Article 6 (II) (severing the treaty from operative linkage to the autonomy), and Article 6 (V) (the "priority of obligations" clause), but on these there is no readiness in Jerusalem to shift ground.

On Article 6 (V) Israel will demand from the U.S. that it revise its interpretation of the paragraph, which at present endorses Egypt's view that Cairo would have the right to aid another Arab state attacked by Israel. Israel's concern is that the world "attack" is often defined subjectively and that this interpretation therefore robs the treaty of its basic no-more-war rationale.

The Israeli position, the sources stressed, will not entail a reversal of the cabinet statement issued ten days ago, following Secretary Vance's shuttle mission to Cairo and Jerusalem. That statement listed the Egyptian demands, and specifically rejected them, expressing willingness to "reformulate" only the accompanying letter on the creation of the autonomy (this letter includes the "target date" which Israel has rejected). But subsequently Premier Begin himself indicated publicly that Article 4 could also be revised, so that the Egyptian desire for a mandatory review of the Sinai security arrangements be expressed, without, however, tying the parties down to a precise date for that review.

The source indicated that Premier Begin and Foreign Minister Dayan were basically in agreement on the position Israel should adopt. The sources expected it to be carried unanimously, or at any rate by a large majority.

They made it clear that Israel's chief concern is with Article 6. "If the Egyptians remain adamant on Article 6," the sources said, "nothing will happen. There will be a long time out."

At yesterday's meeting only six ministers spoke. Others will speak at the follow-up meeting set for Sunday, and the premier will sum up.

Dayan came under attack from ministers Moshe Nissim and David Levy for his Sunday night airport arrival statement urging both Israel and Egypt to make concessions. He did not reply in his own defence, and the premier did not speak for him. The impression was that many ministers, even those who agreed with the substance of Dayan's remarks, though he has been wrong to make them publicly in this way, before reporting to the premier and the cabinet.

Dayan, who opened yesterday's session with his report, is understood to recommend the following:

--Israel should reiterate its readiness to sign the draft treaty and annexes, as it declared it was ready to do back on November 21.

--Israel should express its desire to continue the talks with Egypt, with special reference to Article 4 and to the accompanying letter.

--On Article 4, Israel should not agree to a specific review date, but should seek, together with Egypt, mutually acceptable language.

--On the letter, Israel should refer to the original draft, presented to the two sides at the Blair House talks in October by President Carter himself, which did not contain a specific "target date."

--On Article 6(V) Israel should seek from the U.S. a revised interpretation which would take into account the Israeli reading of the article.

IDF ANNOUNCES CALL-UP DRILL FOR RESERVISTS

TA261616Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 26 Dec 78 TA

[Text] The IDF general headquarters is announcing that the public call-up drill for reservists is beginning now. Reserve soldiers and those in possession of vehicles or equipment of the units whose coded names will be listed later will either report or put the equipment at the disposal of the IDF immediately at the place of meeting or directly at the unit.

These are the coded names of the units called up for the drill:

The study of the Torah (Talmud Tora), supper meal (pat 'arvit), the dipping of the finger (tevilat ezba'), a determined decision (hahlata nehusha), a loafer (holekh batel), the fruit of the earth (peri ha'adama), a chain of reactions (teguvat sharsheret), homework (shi'ure bayit), a nomad (na'vanad), the council of the sages (mo'ezert hazeqenin).

Maj Gen Yequti'el Adam, the deputy chief of staff, signed the order in his capacity as the commander, according to the national defense service bill, 1959, joint formulation, and within his capacity as the commander according to the emergency orders for listing equipment and recruiting it, 1956, and due to the IDF drill which is now taking place.

Exercise Ends

TA260635Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 27 Dec 78 TA

[Text] The public call-up exercise is ending this morning. The exercise began yesterday evening and affected several thousand members of the reserves and some vehicles. The exercise was designed to train the reserves in the public call-up system and to examine the system itself.

GUSH EMUNIM ESTABLISHES TWO SETTLEMENTS ON WEST BANK

TA270555Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 27 Dec 78 TA

[Text] This morning, Gush Emunim set up two new settlements in the region of Giv'on which is north of Jerusalem. Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that 50 Gush Emunim families have situated themselves on two hills near the Giv'on settlement. They have set up fences to delineate the area of the new settlements and, at this moment, supporters of the movement are arriving at the site.

Members of Gush Emunim say that from now on they will adopt a new course of action to turn the existing settlement points into regional centers and surround them with new settlements.

Settlers Asked To Leave

TA270638Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 27 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Members of the military government in Ramallah arrived in the region of Giv'on an hour ago and asked the Gush Emunim settlers to leave the area. The members of Gush Emunim refused.

Our correspondent Avraham Ben-Melekh reports that the military government has not received instructions to forcibly eject the settlers. It so happens that the military government learned of the Gush Emunim operation from this morning's radio news.

This morning, about 50 Gush Emunim families situated themselves on two hills near the Giv'on settlement and put up fences. They said that they intend to establish permanent settlements there. The military government has only found one settlement so far. The border police have set up barriers in the region of Giv'on and are preventing the entry of vehicles into the region.

IDF To Evacuate Settlers

TA271020Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 27 Dec 78 TA

[Text] The commander of Judaea and Samaria, Brig Gen Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, has demanded that the settlers at Tel Hadasha and An-Nabi Samu'el leave of their own will, but they have refused. The settlers are demanding that a government representative negotiate with them, and they are preparing for the night. These are two small groups of settlers who have already been living in various settlements in Judaea and Samaria. Most of them are immigrants from the Soviet Union.

Our correspondent has learned from the settlers that during the next few days they will continue limited settlement activities, and the climax will come next Sunday with a major settlement near Nabulus. The settlers are demanding that the government stop spreading slogans and begin real settlement activities in Judaea, Samaria, Galilee and the Negev.

Several roadblocks have been set up near the settlements close to Jerusalem and on roads throughout Samaria.

We have just been informed that an IDF force is moving toward the Tel Hadasha settlement to evacuate the settlers and dismantle the settlement.

ARAB NATIONALS MAY TRANSIT ISRAEL, STAY 24 HOURS

TA261310Y Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 26 Dec 78 TA

[Text] As of the beginning of next month citizens from Arab countries will be able to stay over in Israel for 24 hours without an entry permit if they arrive here as "passengers in transit" on the plane of any airline.

The deputy legal adviser of the Foreign Ministry says in a letter recently received by El Al that his ministry and the Ministry of the Interior have decided to allow citizens of Arab countries to stay over in Israel for 24 hours without an entry permit.

To date, citizens from Arab countries have been forbidden to enter Israel by air. If they were on the plane, they were forced to remain inside the plane during the stopover which lasted, as a rule, about an hour.

SPECIAL SENATE COMMISSION MEETS TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS

LD261650Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] A special commission, consisting of members of the 12 commissions of the Senate, met today under the chairmanship of Senate President Mohammad Sajjadi. The Senate president said that the commission's primary task is to find a solution to the country's present problems, particularly issues with which the people are directly connected. He said that dispatching senators to various parts of the country to investigate the complaints and problems of the people is another task of this commission.

NEW MILITARY GOVERNOR OF ESFAHAN ASSUMES DUTIES

LD261334Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] At the command of the shahanshah aryamehr, the supreme commander in chief, Maj Gen Ahmad Ghaffari has been appointed commander of the Artillery and Rocket Center and military governor of Esfahan and district. The new military governor of Esfahan and district began his duties as of yesterday.

SHAH RECEIVES INTERIOR MINISTER, NEW GOVERNORS GENERAL

LD261716Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The shahanshah aryamehr received Gen 'Abbas Qarabaghi, minister of the interior, in audience at Niavaran Palace this afternoon. During the audience, the interior minister introduced to His Imperial Majesty Asghar Afrasiabi, the new governor general of Semnan, and Shahaboddin Shahabi, the new governor general of Ilam.

TEHRAN RADIO ON 26 DECEMBER DEMONSTRATIONS

LD261140Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1050 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] According to reports from our correspondents who went to various parts of Tehran early this morning, demonstrations took place on certain avenues, with the demonstrators blocking the way to motor vehicles and creating traffic problems. The demonstrators were scattered after intervention by law enforcement forces and the use of tear gas. Witnesses said no one was injured in these demonstrations.

On Sepahbod Zahedi and Villa Avenues, demonstrators created traffic jams and held street demonstrations. There was heavy traffic on some avenues, particularly at the junction between Takht-e Jamshid and Karim Khan Zand as a result of the demonstrations, and vehicular movement was slow.

According to our correspondent's report from Reza'iyeh, while all shops in the town of Shahpur were closed today for the second consecutive day, a large group of Shahpur citizens held demonstrations and a march through the town's streets at 1100 today. The ulema and religious leaders called on the demonstrators to remain calm in order to avoid any incidents. Nevertheless, the demonstrators broke windows of eight banks, the chamber of guilds building, the anti-illiteracy committee and a cinema. Following this, law enforcement officers used firefighting vehicles and tear gas to scatter the demonstrators. These demonstrations took place as a protest against interference by the people of Ahranjan hamlet in the incident that took place in the Sa'id secondary school for girls in the town of Shahpur.

Following clashes yesterday between progovernment and antigovernment pupils in the secondary school, a number of people entered the school to support the progovernment pupils and beat up antigovernment pupils. Following this incident, tradesmen in Shahpur closed their shops, held a meeting in the town's great mosque and called for the punishment of the perpetrators.

According to reports we have received, demonstrations took place today in the cities of Mashhad, Saqqez and Sanandaj, and the Tabriz and Kerman bazaars were closed.

Further Report

LD261820Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpts] According to a correspondent's report, [in Tehran] groups of people have resorted to scattered demonstrations in Shah Reza Avenue and along the length of several sidestreets and, as a result of these demonstrations, traffic came to a standstill for a time along these routes and traffic jams caused congestion in the sidestreets. In the course of these demonstrations, certain demonstrators set fire to a building and to a truck in Sephahbod Zahedi Avenue. Officers, by firing into the air and throwing tear gas, scattered the demonstrators.

A correspondent also reports from Shahpur that during today's demonstrations in this town an attack by a group of demonstrators on the Shahpur branch of the cooperative agricultural bank resulted in certain documents and proofs belonging to this bank, as well as a car belonging to the Shahpur municipality, being set on fire. During these demonstrations police and law enforcement officers fired in the air and threw tear gas in order to scatter the demonstrators. In the course of these demonstrations, a policeman and eight demonstrators were wounded. These people were taken to the town's Red Lion and Sun Society hospital for treatment.

In Mashhad, a number of people killed a traffic policeman in a most vicious manner. According to reports we have received, the traffic policeman was wounded by a young person with a knife; a number of people then took him to the hospital, where he was attacked with daggers and tragically murdered.

Demonstrations also took place in Sananday today, in the course of which 15 people were wounded and several banks and shops were set on fire.

Tehran Governorate Communique

LD271042Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Following yesterday's incidents in Tehran, the military governorate of Tehran and suburbs issued communique No 27 which says:

As is known, scattered demonstrations have taken place recently in Tehran, and a number of troublemakers set fire to public places, army transport vehicles and private vehicles. In the course of these demonstrations in various parts of the city, hand grenades were hurled and even bullets were fired at the soldiers and people. This led to the wounding of a number of soldiers and the killing and wounding of several innocent people. With great regret, it is announced that Dr Nejatollahi, teacher in the polytechnic, was one of the victims. The military governorate of Tehran and suburbs expresses condolence on this regrettable loss to the country's education community.

The officials of the military governorate chased one of the automobiles from which shots were fired in Farid-Khan Zand Avenue, and despite the heavy traffic around Ordibehest Avenue, a passenger left the automobile and threw two hand grenades at a truck carrying soldiers and opened fire with side arms. He was wounded by the soldiers. During a body search evidence was obtained which will be made public later.

Regretfully, the Tehran military governorate's mild treatment of demonstrators has encouraged the troublemakers so much that their acts have disturbed the general public. Hence, the inhabitants of the capital are expected to strictly refrain from taking part in such demonstrations and assemblies and thus to avoid dangerous situations and enable the military governorate officials to carry out their legal duties and take speedy and necessary measures to identify and confront the troublemakers who cause such regrettable losses.

Death of Teacher

LD271043Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 27 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpt] According to a report received during yesterday's demonstrations in the capital, Mr Kamran Nejatollahi, a member of the academic personnel of the polytechnic, was regrettably killed. Dr Mofidi, minister of science and higher education, said in an interview about this incident:

While (?the students and) members of the academic personnel were having lunch, the late Kamran Nejatollahi went on the balcony of the Ministry of Science Building and was hit by a bullet fired from a distance; with great regret we announce that he died.

The minister of science and higher education pointed out that in recent days many of the academic personnel have gone to the balcony and shouted slogans. We requested them on many occasions not to do so. Dr Mofidi added: Of course, many incidents occurred in the city yesterday, and bullets were fired from balconies and rooftops at the security officials which led to the wounding of a number of people. This regrettable incident may also have been one of these plans launched to intensify and spread chaos.

The minister of science and education said that the cabinet immediately held a meeting an expressed regret over this incident. He then expressed regret on his own behalf and on behalf of his colleagues and conveyed condolences to the family of the late Nejatollahi, the teachers of the Amir Kabir University, the polytechnic and the teachers' community in the country.

AFP: MASSIVE DEMONSTRATION HELD IN MASHHAD

TA261534Y Paris AFP in English 1517 GMT 26 Dec 78 TA

[Excerpts] Tehran, Dec 26 (AFP)--University and high school students shouting "Death to the shah" demonstrated in small groups in the streets of the capital for the fourth consecutive day, defying army troops who seemed to be everywhere. From windows high in office buildings, civil servants tossed flurries of tiny bits of paper bearing anti-government slogans.

A massive demonstration was underway in the holy city of Mashhad and the nation's oil production remained practically paralyzed by strikes. Some 250,000 people, according to opposition estimates, marched through Mashhad today, shouting "Death to the shah" and "Long live Khomeyni." The city was paralyzed by a general strike and no army troops were seen. Today's demonstration was a protest over the deaths of 16 people in violence there Saturday.

Iran's oil production dropped to one of its lowest levels since the beginning of the political crisis today. Only 500,000 barrels were produced, according to sources in the oil industry, compared with a normal average of 5.6 million barrels a day.

Meanwhile 2,500 workers in the highly politicized oil production field resigned en masse in reaction to threats by the government to court martial striking oil workers.

AFP: FIRE IN MASHHAD PRISON EXTINGUISHED

TA261938Y Paris AFP in English 1907 GMT 26 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Tehran, Dec 26 (AFP)--A fire was put out late this afternoon in a prison in the holy city of Mashhad, a reliable source said here. The blaze broke out shortly after a demonstration in Mashhad by an estimated 250,000 anti-shah protesters. Several witnesses said they heard automatic weapons fire from inside shortly before thick black smoke started to pour from the prison.

Unconfirmed rumors said there had been a riot inside the penitentiary, where convicts recently were said to have demonstrated in support of exiled religious opposition leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni.

Several political prisoners are among the detainees in Mashhad's prison, the reliable source said.

AFP: TANKS REAPPEAR IN TEHRAN 27 DECEMBER

TA270846Y Paris AFP in English 0843 GMT 27 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Tehran, 27 Dec (AFP)--Tanks reappeared in the Iranian capital in large numbers today as several thousand anti-shah demonstrators began massing in the city centre. Many were positioned around Pahlavi Hospital where the funeral of a young Iranian professor shot by security forces yesterday was due to be held. Troops had closed the hospital to all but staff, reports said.

Meanwhile, opposition sources said incidents here claimed four lives yesterday. The professor, Kameron Nejatollahi, 27, of Tehran's polytechnic, was one of several academics occupying the Education and Science Ministry. According to the teachers' union, he was shot through the heart by one of the many troops surrounding the ministry as he peered from a window.

The sit-in was part of four days of demonstrations calling for the reopening of the university.

AFP: OIL EXPORTS DRY UP, STRIKES CONTINUE

TA270947Y Paris AFP in English 0946 GMT 27 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Tehran, 27 Dec (AFP)--Iranian oil exports dried up completely today because of strikes in refineries and the distribution system, a highly reliable source said. Output today was estimated at only 250,000 barrels, compared with more than five million normally. Today's small output was intended solely for domestic use rather than export.

Meanwhile, a strike by pilots and other employees of the national airline prevented any flights this morning by Iran Air (IA), aviation sources said. Postal and central bank staff, customs agents and bazaar shopkeepers were also on strike sources said.

NATIONAL AIRLINE FLIGHTS GROUNDED BY STRIKE

LD271136Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Dec 78 LD

[Text] All national Iranian airline flights were canceled today because of a strike. Our correspondent reports that the staff and technicians of the national Iranian airline stopped work today. The strike has grounded internal and external flights of the national Iranian airline, and passengers who have booked flights will have to await the end of the strike.

POSTAL WORKERS STRIKE OVER FAILURE TO MEET WELFARE DEMANDS

LD261326Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The strike and slowdown by Tehran postal workers have created problems for various groups of people. Following repeated telephone calls from listeners, our correspondent paid a visit today to Tehran's central post office and certain postal units in the city. He reports that the Tehran central post office was completely closed and other postal units were refusing to receive and distribute any mail at all.

In comments to our correspondent, certain postal workers attributed the cause of their renewed strike to the indifference displayed by responsible officials toward their welfare demands. In his report, our correspondent adds that the responsible officials have so far refused to give any explanations in this respect.

KINDERGARTENS, PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN TEHRAN TO CLOSE

LD261354Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Tehran's General Department of Education and Training was announced that the education and training chiefs in the 19 districts of Tehran have decided that, in order to safeguard the security and protect the well-being of pupils, all kindergartens and primary and educational guidance schools in Tehran, Shemiran and Shahr-e Rey will be closed from tomorrow until further notice.

The General Department of Education and Training asks the parents of all pupils to look after their children more than ever these days and in particular to warn them against the dangers which could threaten them if they participate in street demonstrations.

CIVIL SERVICE TRIBUNAL SENTENCES COOPERATIVE OFFICIALS

LD251038Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 25 Dec 78 LD

[Text] After 26 meetings, the first branch of the civil service tribunal issued its verdicts on those accused of misappropriation in the ruban and rural cooperative organization. On the basis of the verdicts issued, Dr Baqer Ameli, chairman of the board of directors and former managing director of the urban and rural cooperative organization, was sentenced to 4 years in jail and permanent dismissal from government service as well as payment of 4,234,507 rials to the urban and rural cooperative organization and payment of a 4,389,140 rial fine. Daryush Fa'ez, former head of urban and rural cooperative services, convicted of taking part in two cases of (?misappropriation) totalling the same amounts, was sentenced to 4 years of second degree criminal jail, permanent dismissal from government service and payment of 4,234,907 rials to the urban and rural cooperative organization as well as payment of 4,389,340 rial fine.

Davud Moqqadam, a contractor, was sentenced for having taken part in (?misappropriations) totalling 6,583,710 rials to 1 year in jail and payment of 2,277,000 rials to the urban and rural cooperative organization and another payment of 4,389,340 rials as cash fine.

According to the same verdict, Mostafa Oskui was sentenced to 1 year imprisonment and payment of 1,974,500 to the urban and rural cooperative organization and another payment of 3,000,000 as a cash fine for having participated in misappropriations totalling 5,700,000 rials. On the basis of a verdict issued by the first branch of the civil service tribunal, Mr Esrafil Alizadeh, technician, and Mr Ebrahim Asgari, an employee of the urban and rural cooperative organization, were acquitted of the charges against them.

TEHRAN: GOVERNMENT SPENDING SHOWS EMPHASIS ON RURAL AREAS

LD261004Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0530 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] A special regional allocation amounting to 2.8 billion rials for Khuzestan Province for the coming year beginning on 21 March 1979 has received final endorsement by the provincial council. Half of this allocation will be spent on urban matters and the other half on the rural areas. In this manner the country people's share of the coming year's special regional allocations will be noticeable; and this is an indication of the government's policy with regard to providing greater services on the rural level in order to prevent a senseless exodus of villagers to the cities and thus to contribute to a growth in the agricultural sector.

NATIONAL VOICE OF IRAN: BLOOD FLOWING ON 'CARTER'S ORDER'

LD242305Y National Voice of Iran [Clandestine] in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 14 Dec 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear compatriots, blood is flowing in the streets of our country; they kill and they kill indiscriminately and without mercy. (?Like) the night darkness, they bombard with bullets without knowing who they are facing: woman, man, child or the elderly. It makes no difference whose blood it is; what is important is that blood must flow in the streets; the flow of blood is necessary so that the oil flow may continue. Exactly on the eve of Moharram, several responsible American officials came to Iran and left. The head of the National Security Council, Brzezinski, spoke to the shah on the telephone; and Carter said in his press interviews that the shah will remain in power. This word by itself was tantamount to an order to (?fire). Carter knew that the Iranian people did not want the shah to remain in power. For months, millions of Iranians have poured into the streets, and despite the merciless bloodshed at the cost of their own blood have declared that they do not want the regime headed by the shah in power. Carter himself wrote in a reproachful letter addressed to leading American officials, including the CIA which is the real ruler of Iran, that they were unable to (?find out in time) the scope and depth of the Iranian people's discontent with the ruling regime. [Few words indistinct] does Carter not know that the people of Iran do not want the shah and his regime? Nevertheless, he says that the shah will stay in power and [rest of sentence indistinct].

Carter knows that this word, that is, the order to fire, which means making a torrent of blood flow, is necessary for the flow of oil and for the realization of the foul interests of U.S. imperialism. Groups and scores of Iranian people must be killed so that the [word indistinct] oil can freely flow from Iran to America. In recent years, the shah (?has said) that one of his main policy points is to keep open the (?oil passages of the Hormuz Strait). [passage indistinct]

The main point is this: The Iranian oil must not be plundered, and it must be freely purchased on the basis of the international marketplace; and if the Americans also (?wish to buy it) they should pay for it just like the others; and they (?should sell) to Iran productive industrial goods and not weapons for the defense of foreign interests. It is precisely this fair transaction to which the (?top circles) in Washington and its bloodthirsty lackeys in Iran [words indistinct]. They do not want the free flow of oil; they want the free plunder of oil and of other resources of the national wealth of Iran and the turning of our country into an (?American) base.

A torrent of blood is flowing in our homeland. They kill and kill indiscriminately; they kill on the shah's order and on Carter's order so that with this free flow of blood in the streets of the Iranian cities, the free plunder of oil may continue. They kill so that a band of corrupt lackeys and professional murderers may stay in power and (?protect) the interests of their masters against the Iranian nation with fire and bloodshed. [passage indistinct]

No provision of the Iranian Constitution permits the most sensitive rights of Iran [words indistinct] by the agents of U.S. imperialism. Nowhere does this law permit Carter to issue orders from Washington for the massacre of the Iranian people, and an army which is supposedly Iranian should so extensively and [words indistinct] shed the blood of the innocent people of Iran. [passage indistinct]

NATIONAL VOICE OF IRAN ON MID-DECEMBER PROTESTS

LD2415122 National Voice of Iran [Clandestine] in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 14 Dec 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "The Act Which Caused Everyone's Aversion"]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, during Ashura and Tasu'a [the two mourning days in the month of Moharram], massive demonstrations by thousands of young and old shook the palace of oppression of the subservient regime and its U.S. bosses. These demonstrations represented a referendum against the shah's subservient and despotic regime and the military government of General Azhari.

The people demonstrated that they are not going to tolerate the survival of the shah's despotic regime, which has pledged itself to U.S. imperialism, and that they consider this regime illegal. The genuine demonstrations of the past 2 or 3 days by the glorious and [word indistinct] Iranian people were held under the slogans of "Independence and freedom" and "[Words indistinct] tyranny," "Death to the house of Pahlavi," "SAVAK must be abolished," "Avaricious yankees go to hell," "We demand freedom for all political prisoners," "Death to the shah's U.S. regime" and so forth.

The entire world admires these genuine, national, patriotic, antityrannical and anti-imperialist struggles by our compatriots. They wish the Iranian nation success in achieving its sacred goals. These demonstrations showed once again that there is no room for this despotic regime, which was reinstated by U.S. imperialism and imposed on our country, and that this regime, which has ruined our country, must go and its unbridled and subservient rule must be ended. Furthermore, the U.S. bosses of this regime must also be rejected, taking their bastard child, this puppet and estranged regime, with them.

The regime's mouthpieces, who are trying to deceive the people by promising democracy and freedom, are unashamedly branding the genuine struggles of the Iranian people, during which the above-mentioned slogans reverberated, as antinational. In the dictionary of the regime's mouthpieces, a patriot is a person who would submit to U.S. domination in Iran and to the shah's bloodthirsty and tyrannical regime. Consequently, since the Iranian people demand the rejection of both these contaminated factors, the regime's saber-rattling agents brand our compatriots' sacred struggle antinational and unpatriotic.

During the extensive demonstrations staged by our compatriots, such slogans as "Death to the treacherous shah" and "Yankees get lost" were synonymous.

U.S. imperialism, like the shah's court, is the number one enemy of the Iranian nation. Our people do not consider the struggles against the two as separate struggles and they will continue their struggles against both at the risk of their lives. During the days of Tasu'a and Ashura, the Iranian people, through their mammoth demonstrations, will put the final touches to their condemnation of the present regime. The regime's military agents, who are wobbling like wounded animals from the lethal strike against them through the Iranian people's struggles, are trying to pretend that the shah still enjoys support in the country by staging tailor-made rallies in various parts of the country by spending considerable sums of money from the country's treasury. What impudence and insolence!

The government radio, which kept silent about the mammoth and crushing demonstrations by the Iranian people, gave minute details of these so-called rallies and puppet shows.

The Iranian people persistently demand the rejection of this [word indistinct] regime and its U.S. benefactors. They express their aversion to these ludicrous and disgusting puppet shows.

NATIONAL VOICE OF IRAN ON MUTINY IN ARMED FORCES

LD221830Y National Voice of Iran [Clandestine] in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 15 Dec 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "Instability and Mutiny Within the Ranks of the Army"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The national forces and the religious leaders in our homeland are calling on the Iranian nation to continue the struggle against the shah's bloodthirsty puppet regime, which lacks even the slightest support by the people. Their eminences Khomeyni, Shari'at-Madari and other religious leaders have called on young army soldiers, noncommissioned officers and officers to refrain from opening fire on the people and to stand on the side of the people. In reply to the call of the leaders of parties and various national and democratic groups and the religious leaders opposing despotism, the people of our homeland--without fear of the attacks, killings and crimes of this bestial regime--are continuing their battle.

In its most recent crimes the regime is increasingly exposing itself as a hated, bloodsoaked, insolent, unbridled and criminal regime. The latest bloody crimes of this bestial regime and the government of its black generals in Esfahan have aroused not only the Iranian nation but also world public opinion in protest and anger.

Security officials and the martial law administration of the black generals, with the advice of the Americans and at the shah's instructions, opened fire on thousands of demonstrators in Esfahan and subjected the unarmed people to a burst of machinegun fire from military helicopters flown by Americans. As a result of this savage and cowardly attack by the regime against Esfahan's unarmed people, dozens of people were killed and some 1,000 persons were wounded. The number of wounded is so large that even Esfahan's hospitals were unable to accommodate them. It is said that so far a number of the wounded have died in hospitals.

Today, tens of thousands of people in Esfahan, like tens and hundreds of thousands of people in our despotism-stricken homeland, are mourning their dear ones. The regime's ruthless killings in various parts of the country, particularly in recent days, have aroused a wave of protests and mutinies throughout the country and especially within the ranks of the army. In recent days patriotic troops and armymen have often been observed refusing to obey their commanders' orders to open fire on unarmed demonstrators. In certain cities, particularly in Tehran, a state of anxiety, vacillation, nervousness and dissatisfaction has prevailed for some time now in barracks and on military bases. While in the past troops and armymen used to talk about the events of the realm in secret and away from public scrutiny, in small groups of two of three persons, now they openly express their views on the country's events at the company, battalion and regimental levels. In various statements circulated in barracks it is stated that troops and armymen should not remain tools devoid of will in the hands of the government and should not raise their arms against their brothers, sisters, fathers and mothers and should stand on the side and with the nation. In excited conversations among themselves certain troops and armymen, their eyes full of tears, recall their dear ones and close relatives who have been killed in these incidents. The troops and armymen ask: How long should we witness fratricide and where is this government taking us? How long should we witness bloodshed and the killing of the people? And how long should we kill with our own hands our relatives, dear ones and compatriots for the sake of this corrupt, criminal and blood-spilling government, which is a puppet of the United States?

Instability and mutiny have infiltrated the ranks of the armymen and in certain cases confrontations, clashes and shootings have taken place between troops and armymen on one side and commanders on the other. It is said that mutinies have taken place within the shahanshah's special guards, in the course of which soldiers have fired on their superior officers.

In military schools, academies and officer taining colleges, whether in Tehran or in provincial centers, a state of extreme nervousness and even mutiny prevails. Certain cadets in military schools and officer training colleges have learned from letters about the killing and martyrdom of their dear ones and relatives. A number of those who went home for the weekend on Friday came face to face with the bodies of their brothers, sisters, mothers, children and friends and their bloody shrouds. Their loved ones and children were killed by gunfire from military and security forces during demonstrations against the shah's blood-shedding regime. It is with good reason that group after group of soldiers and military school and academy cadets and even some officers and noncommissioned officers are leaving their barracks and training centers and are not prepared to put up with the shame of killing their brothers, sisters and other dear ones.

The armed forces--the sole base of the shah's fascist regime--have also been bedevilled by agitation, anxiety and fragmentation. The religious leaders and national forces have called on the armymen to carry out their national and religious duty to Iran and the Iranian people by disobeying the orders of the black generals of the shah's court and by joining the people. The soldiers, officers and armymen are the children of the Iranian nation and cannot remain indifferent to the bloody events in the realm and the call--the invitation--of the national and religious leaders. The day is not far away when the armymen, by fully joining the ranks of the people, will cast the heads of this blood-shedding regime and its criminal generals into the trash can of history.

NATIONAL VOICE OF IRAN: ANTI-U.S. SENTIMENT GROWING

LD2315462 National Voice of Iran [Clandestine] in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 15 Dec 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "The Growth of Anti-U.S. Sentiment in our Homeland"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The mass movement of the people of our homeland against the shah's despotic regime is increasingly acquiring an anti-U.S. aspect and this is not fortuitous. Our homeland's brave and struggling nation wants to kick out the despotic monarchical regime and put an end to U.S. influence in and domination of Iran. The shah's regime, which has betrayed the interests of the Iranian nation, is feverishly attempting to use the force of boyonets to crush the national and democratic movement of the Iranian people for freedom and against the shah's oppressive court and his U.S. masters. Washington knows only too well that the events in Iran not only constitute a riposte against the traitorous policy of the shah's moribund regime, but also an increasingly daily protest against U.S. imperialism's military, economic and political presence in Iran. This in particular is why the United States is defending its servant, the shah, and declares that it supports all his measures aimed at the so-called establishment of order and stability.

We all know that his imperial majesty's measures and those of the shah's martial law administration for establishing the so-called order desired by the United States and the oil cartel mean establishing military rule in effect throughout Iran; opening hails of bullets, killings, and the murder of thousands of those waging jihad along the path of right and freedom in Tehran and other Iranian cities; and the detention of tens of thousands of people.

What ought to be said here, however, is that Mr Carter's support and that of the U.S. Government for the shah is not confined to words along. A special group has been set up in the President's office and in the U.S. State Department in order to analyze, as it were, and investigate the situation in Iran and work out various plans of U.S. intervention in Iranian affairs in case of the shah's defeat vis-a-vis the vast, national and democratic movement of the Iranian nation. Simultaneously, the United States is increasing the export of police and military hardware to our country, including hundreds of thousands of teargas bombs, truncheons and various other means of torture in order to crush the struggling Iranian people. Coupled with U.S. war weapons and ammunition, a fresh group of military advisers and professional cadres of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency are arriving every day in Iran. Already all evidence and documents indicate that the Americans are independently undertaking the supervision of the situation and the measures by the shah's martial law administration in Tehran and the centers of all provances.

The White House has invited Helms, former head of the CIA and former U.S. ambassador to Iran, to work for it as a special adviser. However, U.S. interference in our country's affairs not only has not helped the shah, but on the contrary has increasingly strengthened the anti-U.S. spirit and closed the ranks of the people and those of all the national and religious forces in the struggle against the shah's despotic regime and his U.S. masters. It is noteworthy that in recent days, in the course of the vast demonstrations by the people of our homeland against the shah's hateful regime, in the streets and squares of various cities, in their slogans, our homeland's struggling people not only called for an immediate expulsion of U.S. military advisers and officers of the U.S. CIA, who are busy working in Iran under various guises, including those of commercial or banking representatives.

As a result of the vast protests and demonstrations by the Iranian nation, thousands of members of the families of U.S. military advisers and commercial representatives in Iran have so far left our country. Together with their nibs a huge group of thieves and middlemen of the home variety and those who served the Western monopolies--particularly the U.S. ones--and those who pocketed billions thanks to the shah's revolution also left the country.

Through irrefutable proof and documents the people of our country have come to believe that the shah's despotic regime has driven the country to the brink of bankruptcy. The regime has squandered the vast oil revenues on militarization and on vast arms purchases. Inflation has soared to a level of 50 percent and in the past 2 months it has been announced twice that the realm's currency reserves have diminished. Almost half the budget of our realm is frittered away on securing the expenditures of the army, policy and security forces. The regime's half-hearted land reforms have left the peasantry homeless and created a large land-owning strata and a new form of exploitation in the countryside. Thanks to the agricultural crisis our country today is one of the biggest importers of foodstuffs. It is as a result of these policies that the people's patience has reached its limit and they have hoisted the standard of mutiny and struggle against this corrupt regime, which is the middleman of the U.S. monopolies.

Now the question may be asked as to the reason why the Americans are so worried about the situation in Iran? Everyone knows that Washington has mobilized all means, even the Central Intelligence Agency, the spy section of the U S. Department of War [as heard], in support of the shah. Washington has even mobilized its puppets in the Persian Gulf, and above all Saudi Arabia and the shaykhs in the Arab Emirates, in support of the shah. However, the Iranian nation's struggle against the shah's despotic regime and his U.S. masters is a national, universal and [word indistinct] struggle. All the progressive forces in the world back the Iranian nation in this struggle.

BANGLADESH

PRESIDENT MEETS WITH IMPORTANT POLITICAL LEADERS

BK2315547 Hong Kong AFP in English 1355 GMT 23 Dec 78 BK

[Text] Dacca, Dec 23 (AFP)--A number of important political leaders last night met with President Ziaur Rahman over the question of their participation in parliamentary elections scheduled for January 27 well-informed sources said today.

Results of the meeting which continued after midnight were not available, but sources said the leaders included Mr Abdul Malek Ukil of the main opposition party Awami League, Mr Moni Singh of the Communist Party, Cpb, Mr Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury of the breakaway faction of the Awami Leauge and Mr Mazaffar Ahmed of the pro-Moscow National Awami Party (NAP).

Earlier this month these leaders had announced that their parties would not participate in election unless their demands for end of martial law, resignation of General Ziaur Rahman from the army and release of political detainees were accepted by the government.

The meeting of these leaders with the president last night is viewed here as significant particularly after another leading opposition party, the Muslim League, led by Khan A. Sabur, disassociated itself Thursday from anti-election groups and announced its decision to participate in polls.

Observers felt that erosion in the anti-election lobby might expand and that the pro-Moscow Cpb and NAP along with at least one faction of the Awami League would ultimately decide in favour of joining elections.

Meanwhile, according to official sources, the last deadline for filing nomination papers to the election commission by candidates which was earlier fixed for December 27 would be shifted to December 30 to facilitate participation of those boycotting parties who are likely to change their decisions in favour of elections in the next few days. An announcement to this effect is expected shortly. Earlier this week the dead line for applying for election symbols by parties had been extended for December 20 to December 25 by the election commission possibly for the same reason.

Official sources however, said that the government would stick to the polling date (Jan. 27) in spite of opposition demands for postponing it to late February or early March next year.

FIVE PARTIES FORGE 'PEOPLE'S FRONT' TO CONTEST ELECTIONS

BK2402447 Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 24 Dec 78 BK

[Text] Five political parties have announced the formation of a front called the Bangladesh Gana [People's] Front for contesting the coming parliamentary elections to be held on the 27th of next month. The parties are the Islamic Democratic League Krishak-Sramik [Peasants-Workers] Party, Jatiya Dal, National Awami Party led by (Safdar) and the People's Democratic Party.

In a joint statement, they said that they consider it indispensable for participating in the elections in the greater interest of the country and for the restoration of democracy. The statement noted that election is the only (?institution) for the establishment of democracy.

The Bangladesh National Awami Party, Naser [faction], has decided to participate in the coming parliamentary elections. According to a party release the decision was taken at a 3-day meeting of the party Central Committee which ended in Dacca yesterday.

MARTIAL LAW RELATING TO POLITICAL ACTIVITIES SUSPENDED

BK241728Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 24 Dec 78 BK

[Text] The government has been making sincere efforts for the restoration of democracy in the country. With this objective in view the general elections to the parliament are being held.

A handout issued in Dacca tonight says: The government wishes it to be known that application of martial law provisions in connection with political activities will remain suspended from now. However, loss of life and damage to public and private properties cannot be covered under this (?provision).

The government wishes to further reiterate that all arrangements have been made to hold the general elections and that it is determined to insure free and fair elections.

DACCA RADIO ON POLITICAL LIBERALIZATION MEASURES

BK250228Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 25 Dec 78 BK

[Text] The government has announced a series of measures to insure free and fair elections to the parliament in a peaceful atmosphere. According to an official announcement in Dacca last night, the measures include suspension of application of martial law provisions in respect of political activities, waiving the current practice of prior permission for holding public meetings and use of microphones for political parties, steps for withdrawal of restricted provisions of the press and publication ordinance, and a liberal policy on the release of political prisoners.

The announcement says the government has been making sincere efforts for the restoration of democracy in the country. With this objective in view, general elections to the parliament are being held. It said the application of martial law provisions in connection with political activities in the country will remain suspended from now on. However, loss of life and damage to public and private property will not be covered under this dispensation, it added.

The announcement said prior permission to hold public meetings and use of microphones by political parties will no longer be necessary until further orders. However, allotment of venue for holding such a meetings will be regulated by appropriate authorities and on a first-come-first-serve basis. It says although freedom of speech and freedom of press exist further steps are being taken to withdraw the restricted provisions of the press and publication ordinance.

It further said the government has been pursuing a liberal policy about the release of political prisoners, and more than 10,000 had so far been released. Political prisoners detained without any specific charges will be released shortly. All other cases of political prisoners are being constantly reviewed by the government.

The government reiterated that all arrangements are being made to hold general elections to the parliament in a peaceful atmosphere and that it is determined to insure free and fair elections. The government appeals to all people and political parties for their cooperation in bringing about people's elected government representatives.

NAP, MUZAFFAR GROUP TO TAKE PART IN ELECTION

BK251630Y Dacca Domestic Service in Bengali 1430 GMT 25 Dec 78 BK

[Text] The Bangladesh National Awami Party [NAP], Muzaffar group, has decided to take part in the coming parliamentary election, a press release of the party said this decision was taken at the NAP working committee meeting in Dacca. The NAP has also called upon other political parties to participate in the elections.

RAHMAN ASSURES 10-PARTY ALLIANCE OF FREE ELECTIONS

BK251735Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 1705 GMT 25 Dec 78 BK

[Text] President Ziaur Rahman has reiterated his categorical assurance to the 10-party alliance that the forthcoming parliamentary elections will be free. The assurance came from the president when the leaders of the alliance met him at Banga Bhavan today. During the talks with the alliance leaders, the president appealed to them to participate in the elections to bring about a people's elected government in the country.

The alliance leaders who met the president are: Mr Ataur Rahman Khan, General retired; Shahjahan Siraj; Pir Mausanuddin Dodu Mian; Mr (Wali Wahad); Mr Rashed Khan Memon; Maulana Abdul Rashid Tarkabagish; Mr (Abdus Sabhan); Mr (Mahfuzur Rahman); and Mr Matikur Rahman.

Mr Ataur Rahman Khan, on behalf of the alliance, later said they had failed to reach an accord on their five point demands.

ELECTIONS POSTPONED TILL 12 FEBRUARY

BK260901Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 0835 GMT 26 Dec 78 BK

[Excerpt] In consideration of the request made by various political parties for extending the date of coming parliamentary elections, the election commission has issued a revised election schedule. Accordingly, the date of polling has been fixed on the 12th of February next.

SRV'S NGUYEN DUY TRINH ARRIVES IN DACCA 26 DECEMBER

BK260634Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 0605 GMT 26 Dec 78 BK

[Text] The Vietnamese vice premier and foreign minister, Mr Nguyen Duy Trinh, arrived in Dacca today on a 3-day official visit to Bangladesh.

Mr Nguyen Duy Trinh will have two rounds of talks with Foreign Minister Prof Shamsul Haq. Their talks are likely to cover the entire gamut of bilateral matters and international issues of common concern.

The Vietnamese vice premier will also call on President Ziaur Rahman.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS, COMMENTS ON VISITS

BK230530Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 0145 GMT 23 Dec 78 BK

[Text] The minister for foreign affairs, Prof Mohammad Shamsul Haq, has said he had fruitful talks with the leaders of India and Pakistan on bilateral, regional and international issues. His visits to India and Pakistan, though brief, will help strengthen the friendly relations Bangladesh already has with those countries, he said.

Professor Haq was talking to newsmen in Dacca last night on his return home after a good will visit to India and Pakistan. In India, he had talks with the prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai, the foreign minister, Mr Vajpayee, and other senior officials of the External Affairs Ministry.

Similarly in Pakistan, he met President Ziaul Haq and had talks with him and the adviser on foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi, and other senior officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He said the talks were held in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

He noted with satisfaction that there were consensus and similarity of views on international affairs, including the question of Namibia, Zimbabwe, Azania and South Africa, which are likely to come up before the UN Security Council. The three countries shared the views along with other Third World countries of the imperative need for urgent steps be taken for restructuring the existing economic order and the establishment of a new one.

On regional matters, Professor Haq said there is a clear recognition among the three countries of the need for peace and stability as an essential prerequisite for accelerating the pace of economic and social development of the people of the region.

He said that during his visit he had thanked the governments of India and Pakistan for their support to Bangladesh's election to the Security Council.

The foreign minister said that the question of the adverse balance of payments of India and Pakistan was among the specific bilateral matters which camp up during his meetings.

In reply to a question, the foreign minister said he had discussions with the Pakistan authorities on the repatriation of stranded Pakistanis in Bangladesh and also the question of sharing assets and liabilities between the two countries. He said both sides stressed the need for immediate start of the repatriation of stranded Pakistanis and agreed that efforts should be made to remove the financial impediments affecting the process.

On the question of an exchange of assets and liabilities, Professor Haq said that, as decided during President Zia's visit to Pakistan, the foreign secretary of that country should visit Bangladesh in the near future to start discussions on the matter.

Replying to yet another question, Professor Haq categorically said that Kashmir did not figure at any level of discussions with the Pakistani leaders.

INDIA

ARREST OF CONGRESS-I LEADER UNRELATED TO HIJACKING

BK231443Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 23 Dec 78 BK

[Text] The district magistrate of Lucknow has said that the arrest of Mr Mayapati Tripathi, son of the leader of the opposition in the Rajya Sabha, Mr Kamlapati Tripathi, had nothing to do with the hijacking of the Indian Airlines plane.

Reporting this, UNI [UNITED NEWS OF INDIA] quoted the district magistrate as saying that Mr Mayapati Tripathi had been arrested earlier than the hijacker's arrest.

LOK SABHA DEBATES HIJACKING, ADJOURNS SINE DIE

BK231623Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 23 Dec 78 BK

[Text] There was general condemnation of Wednesday's hijacking incident by members of all sections in the Lok Sabha today. The atmosphere of violence prevalent in the country also came in for severe criticism. In an 8-hour debate most members emphasized that there is no place for violence in democracy.

The prime minister, who intervened in the debate, warned that politics of violence would be met squarely and firmly. He appealed to all parties to cooperate with the government in curbing this trend. The hijacking of the Indian Airlines Boeing could not be the work of just two young men, and this will be revealed in an inquiry which has been ordered. Mr Desai said it is regretful that a Congress-I member described the episode as the joke of the year. It could have ended in disaster if the pilots had lost their nerve. There has been terrible violence in the country organized by the Congress-I. The prime minister said even if it is granted that punishment of Mrs Gandhi was excessive, the violence that has followed it cannot be justified.

The opposition leader, Mr Stephens, emphatically denied that his party is responsible for the violence. Its working committee has already condemned the hijacking incident. Some members, he said, are levelling charges without any sense of responsibility. Democracy can flourish only if there is right to dissent. Demonstrations and agitations are all lawful.

The civil aviation minister, Mr Kaushik, described the hijacking incident as part of a bigger plan to create panic amongst the people. The former home minister, Mr Charan Singh, warned the Congress-I of serious consequences if they resort to violence. Mr K.P. Unnikrishnan, Congress, who began the debate, said the hijacking needs to be condemned by all.

With today's debate the current session of the Lok Sabha came to an end and the house adjourned sine die.

Rayja Sabha Adjourns

BK261310Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 26 Dec 78 BK

[Text] Rajya Sabha was adjourned sine die today. Lok Sabha was adjourned sine die on Saturday.

DELHI RADIO REPORTS GANDHI RELEASE FROM JAIL

BK2615447 Delhi Domestic Service in Hindi 1515 GMT 26 Dec 78 BK

[Text] The president today prorogued the lower house of parliament. Lok Sabha's winter session was adjourned sine die on Saturday.

The upper house was prorogued today. With the prorogation of the lower house of the parliament, Congress-I President Mrs Indira Gandhi was released from New Delhi's Tihar jail. She was imprisoned on the 19th of this month in pursuance of the Lok Sabha's decision to expel her from the parliament and send her to jail for the breach of privilege and contempt of the house.

When Mrs Gandhi came out of the jail a large number of people applauded her. Later she drove to her residence. Opposition leader Mr C.M. Stephens accompanied her.

Former secretary to Mrs Gandi, Mr R.K. Dhawan, and former director of the Central Bureau of Investigation, Mr D. Sen, were also released from the jail. Both of them were jailed by the Lok Sabha for the breech of privilege of the house.

AMBASSADOR TO U.S. ON SUPPLY OF NUCLEAR FUEL

BK2515547 Hong Kong AFP in English 1215 GMT 23 Dec 78 BK

[Excerpt] New Delhi, Dec 25 (AFP)--There is a "fair likelihood" of India obtaining 16.8 tonnes of nuclear fuel from the U.S. for the American-built Tarapore atomic power plant, near Bombay, Ambassador to the U.S. N.A. Palkhivala disclosed in Bombay today. Mr Palkhivala, who arrived in India last week for consultations, had just met Prime Minister Morarji Desai now on a visit to Bombay. President Carter was "favourably disposed" to India and the new consignment of nuclear fuel was likely to be shipped soon, he said.

PAKISTAN

BANGLADESH FOREIGN MINISTER CONCLUDES 3-DAY VISIT

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[Text] The Bangladesh foreign minister, Prof Mohammad Shamsul Haq, has said that he had very friendly and useful talks with President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq and other government officials in Pakistan. He was talking to newsmen before his departure for Karachi on his way to Dacca at the end of his 3-day visit to Pakistan.

He said that an invitation has been extended from President Ziaur Rahman of Bangladesh to President Mohammad Ziaul Haq to visit Bangladesh. He hoped that the visit will (?strengthen further) the already existing brotherly relations between the two countries.

In reply to a question as to what impact the normalization of relations between China and the United States would have on disarmament, the Bangladesh foreign minister said that his country has always been (?calling) for disarmament all over the world. He said the resources of the developing countries should be devoted to achieving their national objectives of economic and social development.

The Bangladesh foreign minister and members of his delegation were seen off at the airport by the adviser on foreign affairs, Mr Agha Shahi. The foreign secretary and senior Foreign Office Officials were also present.